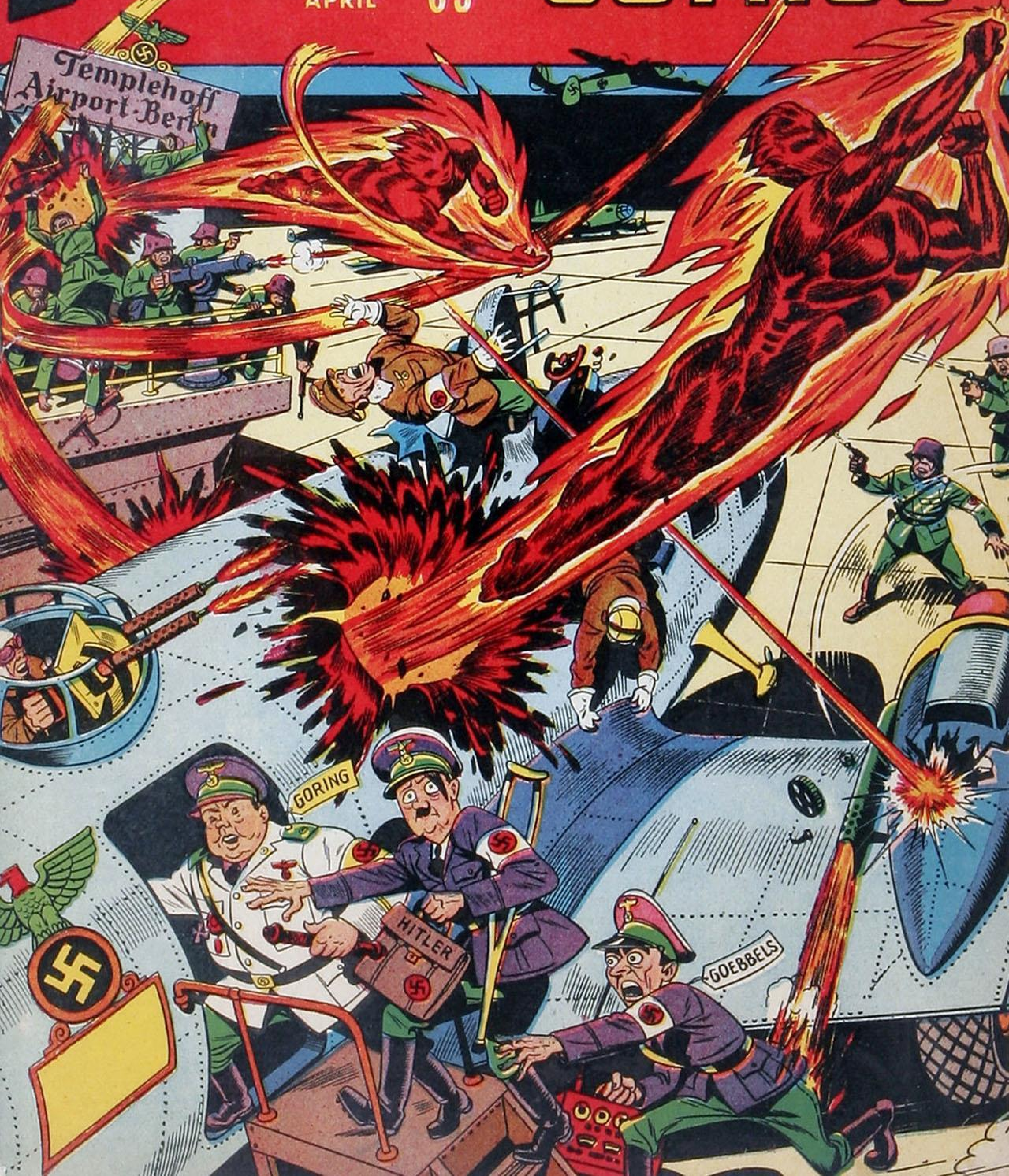
MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS

10¢

APRIL

NO. 63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Will You Wear this Gorgeous
SLACK SUIT
ON APPROVAL
6 LOVELY COLORS
GREEN
LIGHT BLUE
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IT'S SLEEK!
IT'S HARDY!
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This Stunning
SLACK SUIT CLASSIC
ONLY $8.95

Glamorous Hollywood started the slack suit craze. And no wonder . . . slack suits bring new comfort and ultra-smart appearance for your leisure hours, sports and street wear.

READY FOR EVERYTHING! New! Beautifully tailored with glamour-plus. Exclusively styled from crisp, fine quality, all season material that really dislikes being coddled. Belted shirred-back jacket hugs waistline cozily . . . trim pleated slacks, with real pockets, give that "slim as a reed" look. Perky shoulders, smart, distinctive lines . . . deft masculine tailoring in a tantalizing feminine slack suit that men admire—women envy. Wear it the year around and feel confident you're the best dressed slack suit gal in town! An original by Bonnie Gaye. Sizes 12 through 20 and biggest of all surprises it's only $8.95 plus postage.

SEND NO MONEY— Check size and color choice and mail coupon today. On arrival send $8.95 through postman plus C.O.D. postage. Wear, compare. If a 10-day trial doesn't prove you've discovered the best buy ever, please return for full refund.

10 Days' Trial • **Yes, wear this CRUISER SLACK SUIT at my RISK. If you, too, are not completely satisfied in every way, return in 10 days and your full purchase price will be refunded.—BONNIE GAYE, 168 N. Michigan, Chicago 1, Ill.**

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168 North Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Ill.
Send new Cruiser Slack Suit. I'll give postman $8.95 plus postage on arrival with understanding I may return purchase if not satisfied in 10 days for full refund. (Mark 1st and 2nd choice color selections and state size)
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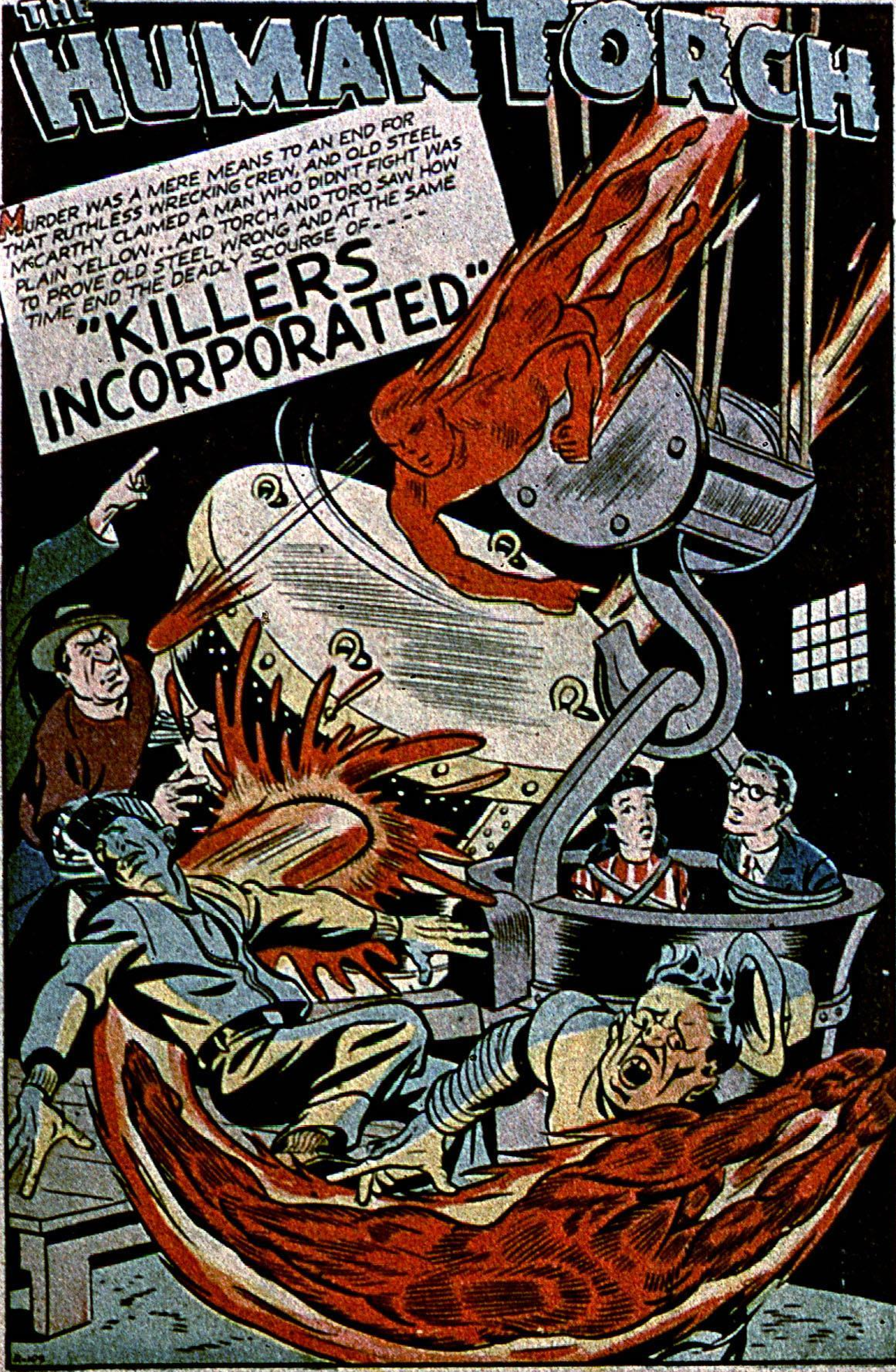
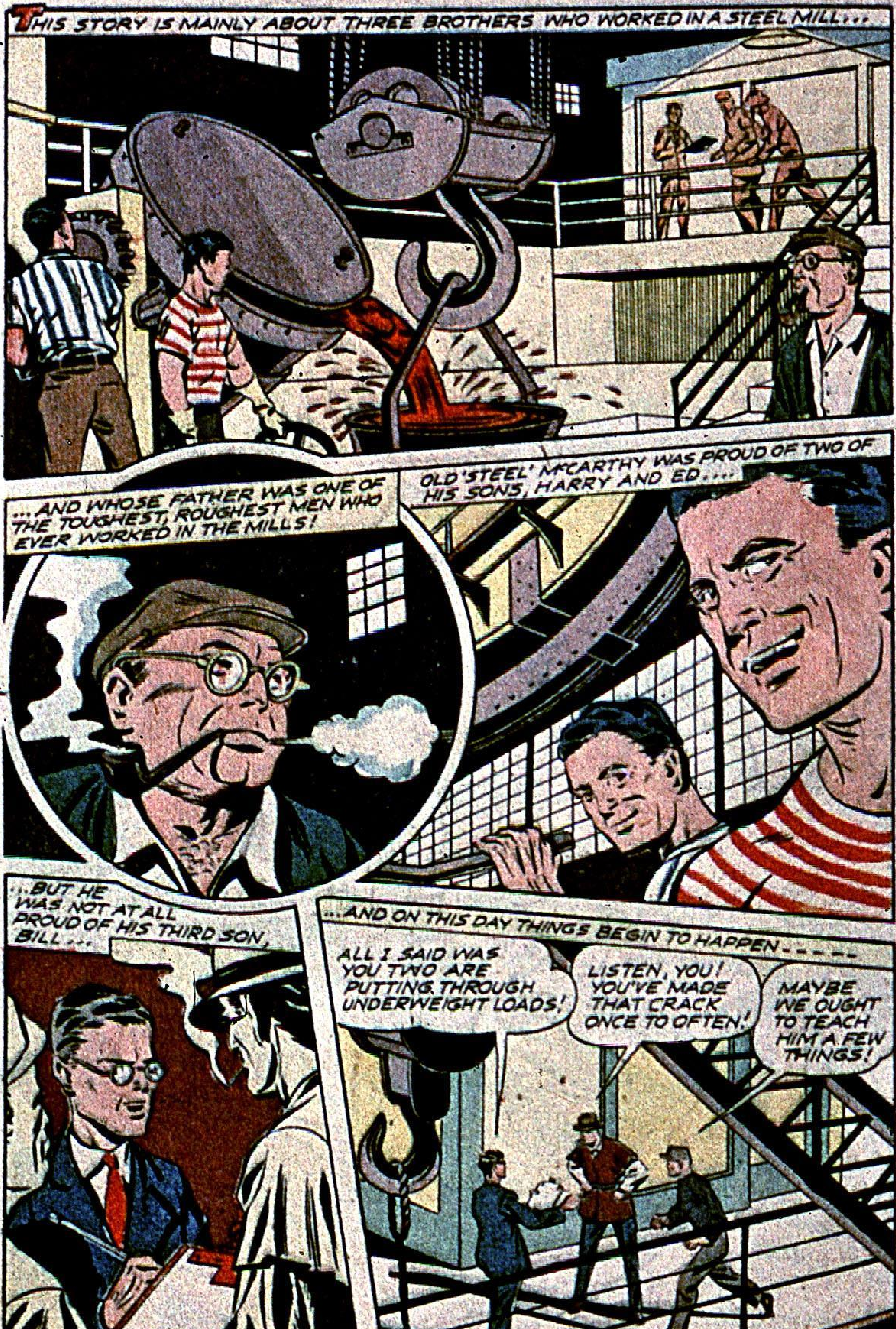
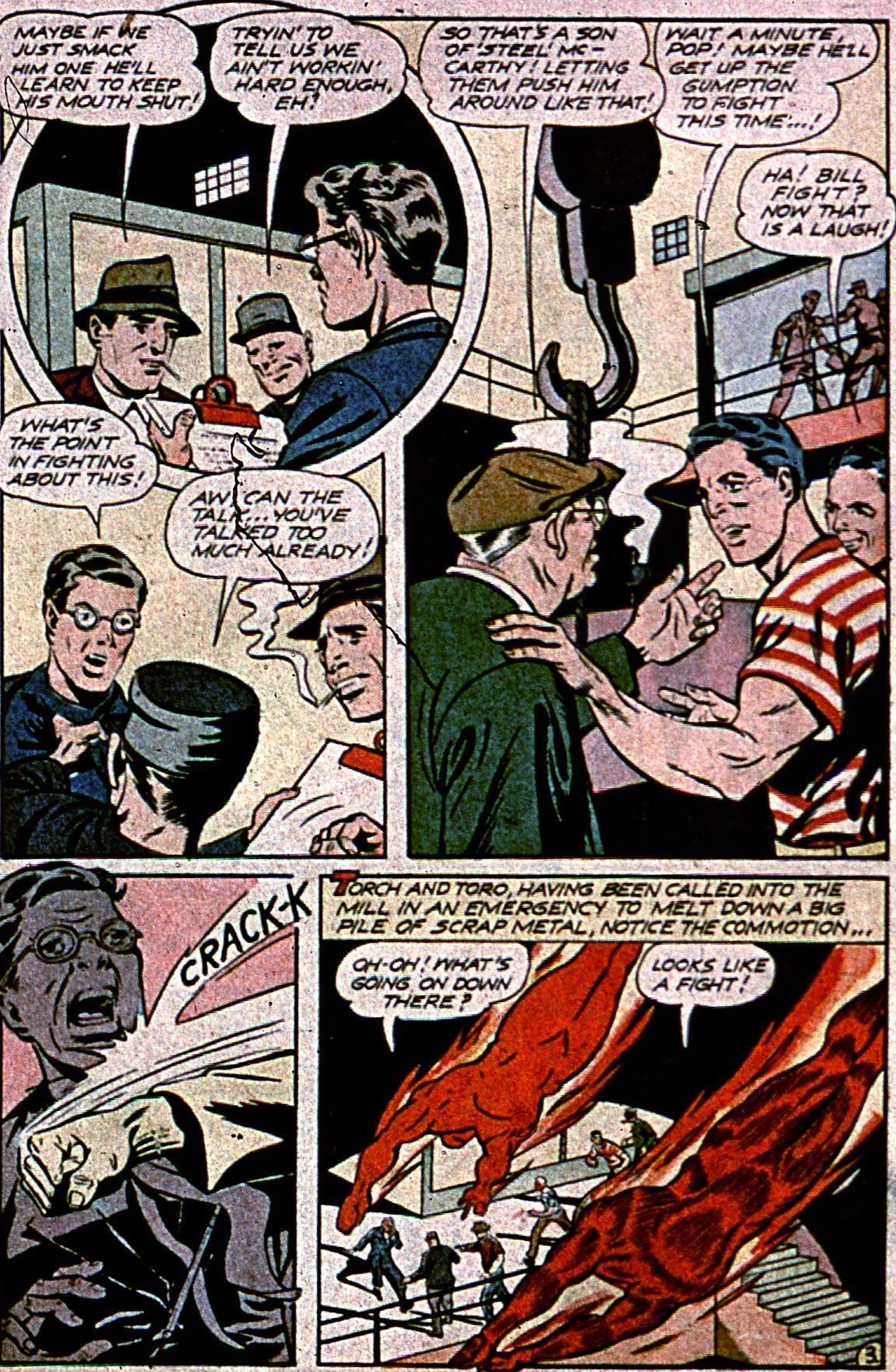
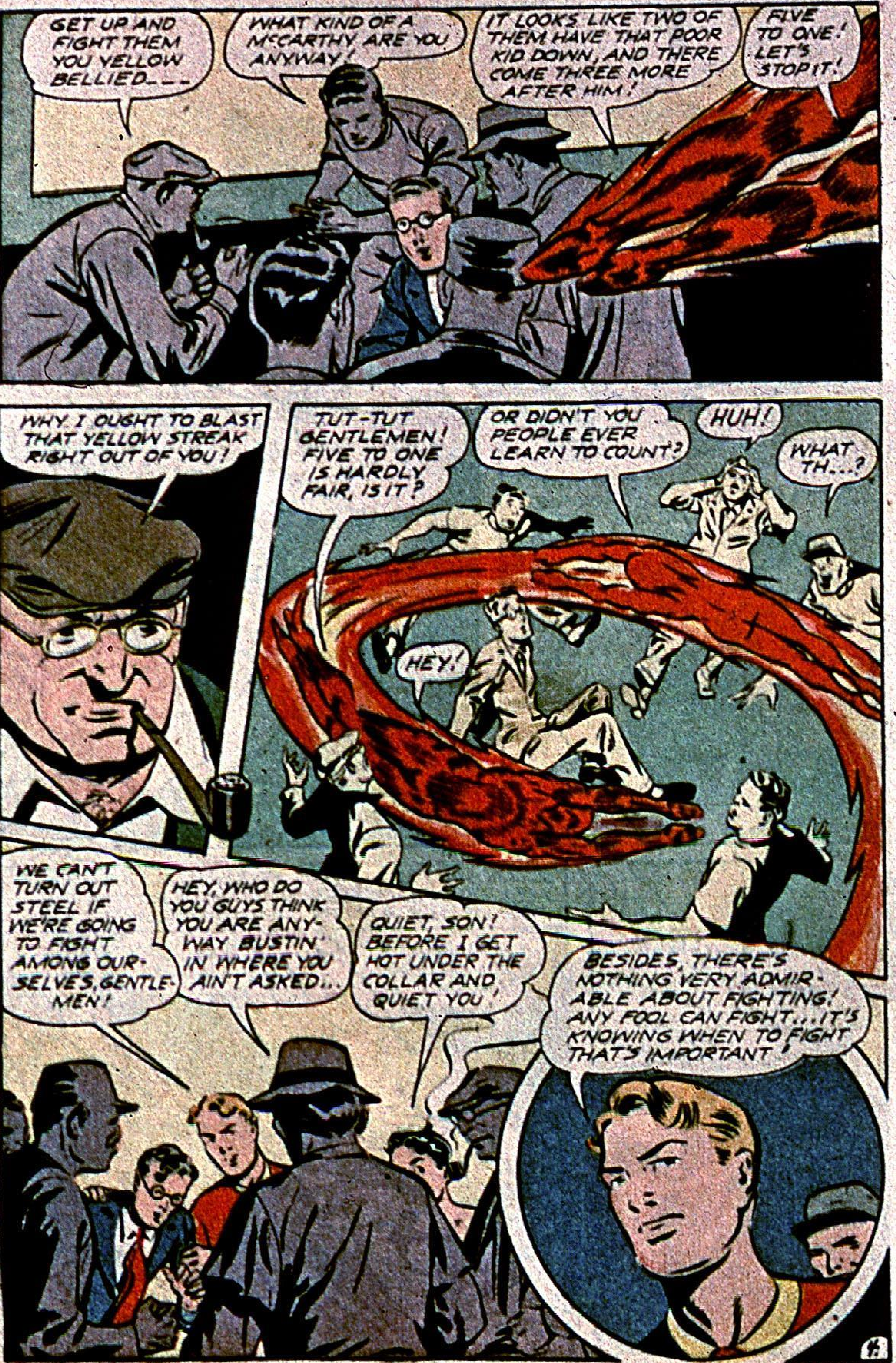
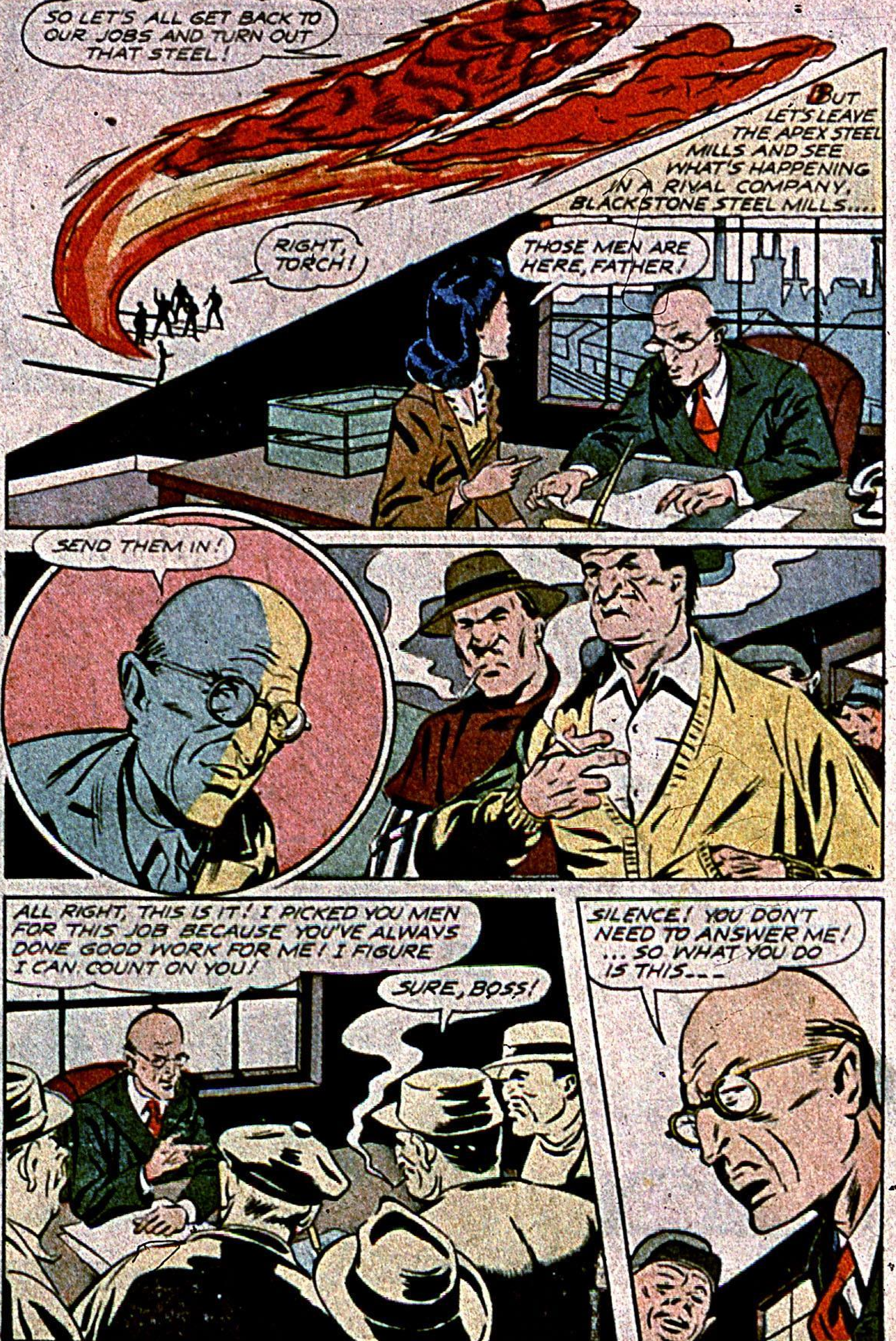
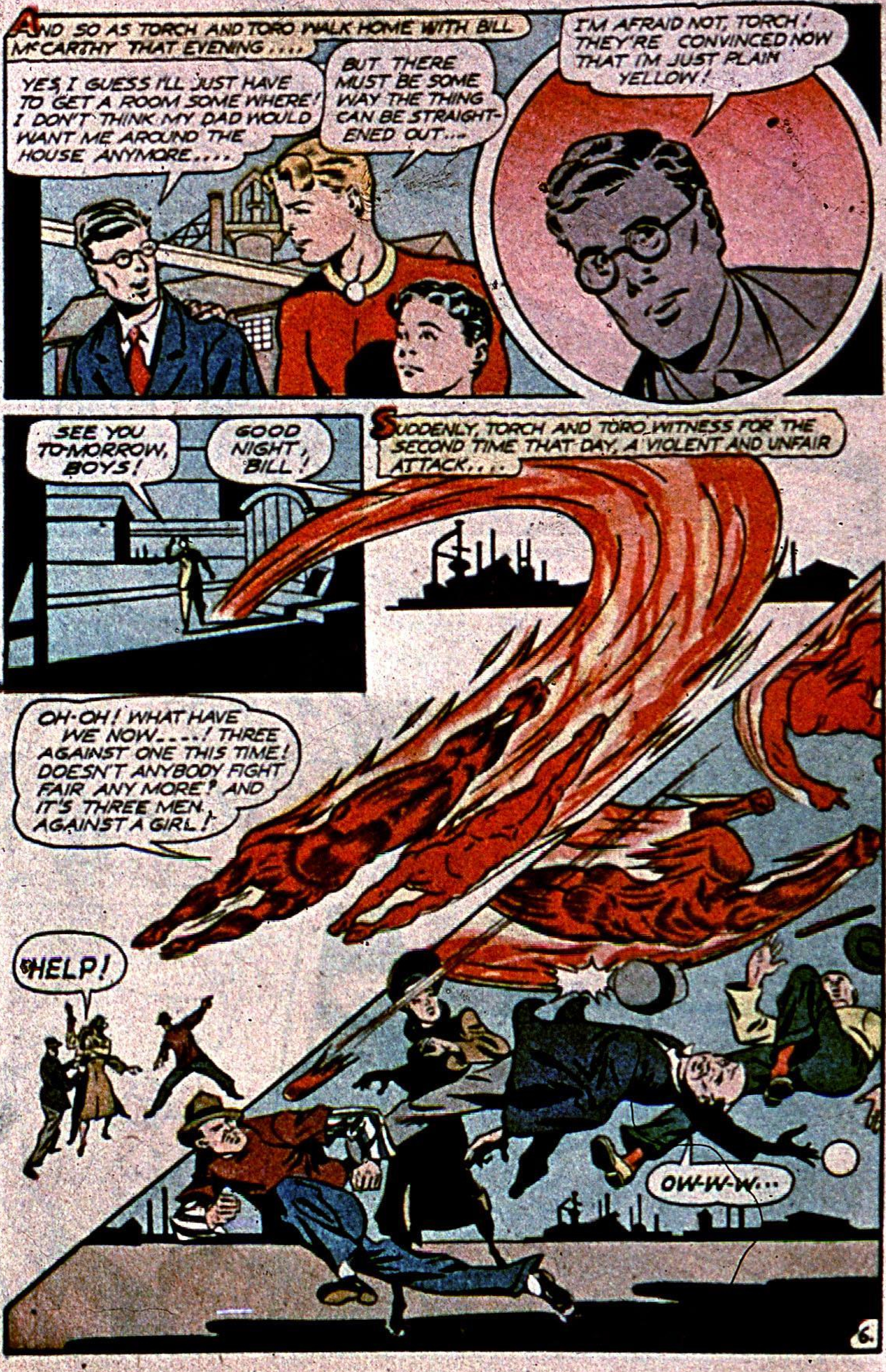

THE HUMAN TORCH
MURDER WAS A MERE MEANS TO AN END FOR THAT RUTHLESS WRECKING CREW, AND OLD STEEL McCARTHY CLAIMED A MAN WHO DIDN'T FIGHT WAS PLAIN YELLOW... AND TORCH AND TORO SAW HOW TO PROVE OLD STEEL WRONG AND AT THE SAME TIME END THE DEADLY SCOURGE OF- - - -
"KILLERS INCORPORATED"

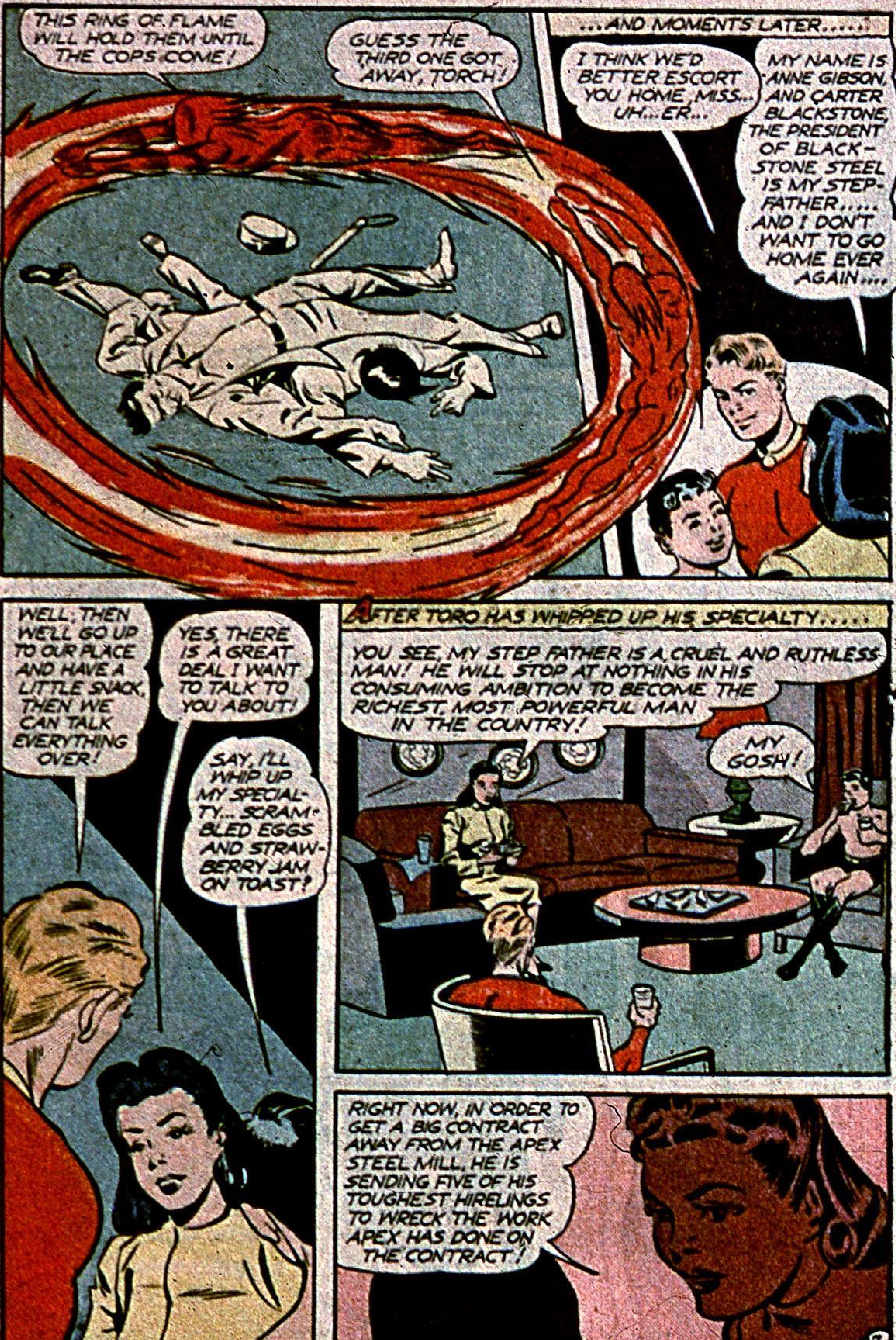

THIS STORY IS MAINLY ABOUT THREE BROTHERS WHO WORKED IN A STEEL MILL...
...AND WHOSE FATHER WAS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST, ROUGHEST MEN WHO EVER WORKED IN THE MILLS!
OLD 'STEEL' McCARTHY WAS PROUD OF TWO OF HIS SONS, HARRY AND ED....
...BUT HE WAS NOT AT ALL PROUD OF HIS THIRD SON, BILL...
...AND ON THIS DAY THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN-----
ALL I SAID WAS YOU TWO ARE PUTTING THROUGH UNDERWEIGHT LOADS!
LISTEN, YOU! YOU'VE MADE THAT CRACK ONCE TO OFTEN!
MAYBE WE OUGHT TO TEACH HIM A FEW THINGS!

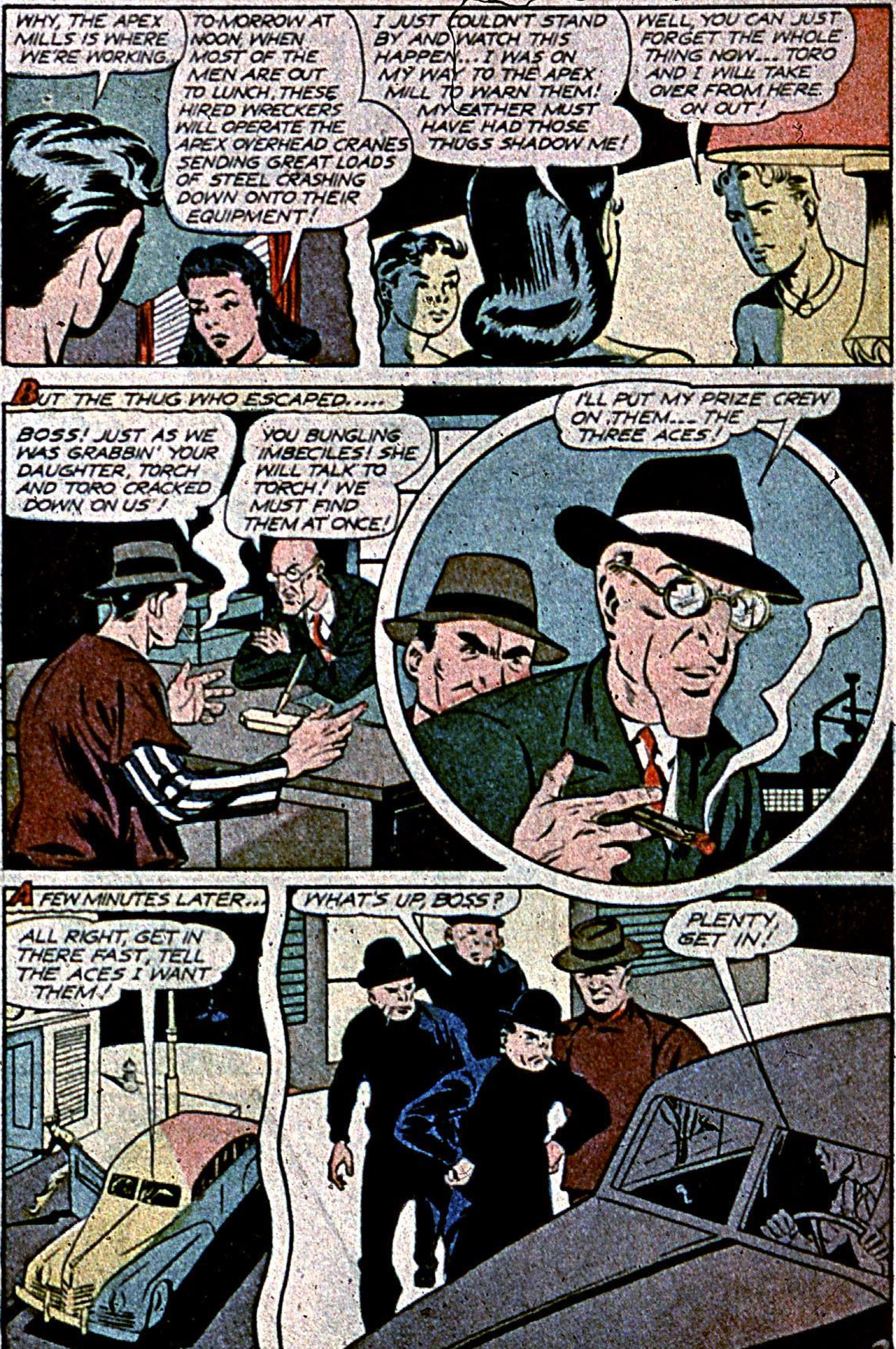

MAYBE IF WE JUST SMACK HIM ONE HE'LL LEARN TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT!
TRYIN' TO TELL US WE AIN'T WORKIN' HARD ENOUGH, EH!
WHAT'S THE POINT IN FIGHTING ABOUT THIS!
AW CAN THE TALK... YOU'VE TALKED TOO MUCH ALREADY!
SO THAT'S A SON OF 'STEEL' MC-CARTHY! LETTING THEM PUSH HIM AROUND LIKE THAT!
WAIT A MINUTE, POP! MAYBE HE'LL GET UP THE GUMPTION TO FIGHT THIS TIME...!
HA! BILL FIGHT? NOW THAT IS A LAUGH!
CRACK-K
TORCH AND TORO, HAVING BEEN CALLED INTO THE MILL IN AN EMERGENCY TO MELT DOWN A BIG PILE OF SCRAP METAL, NOTICE THE COMMOTION...
OH-OH! WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?
LOOKS LIKE A FIGHT!

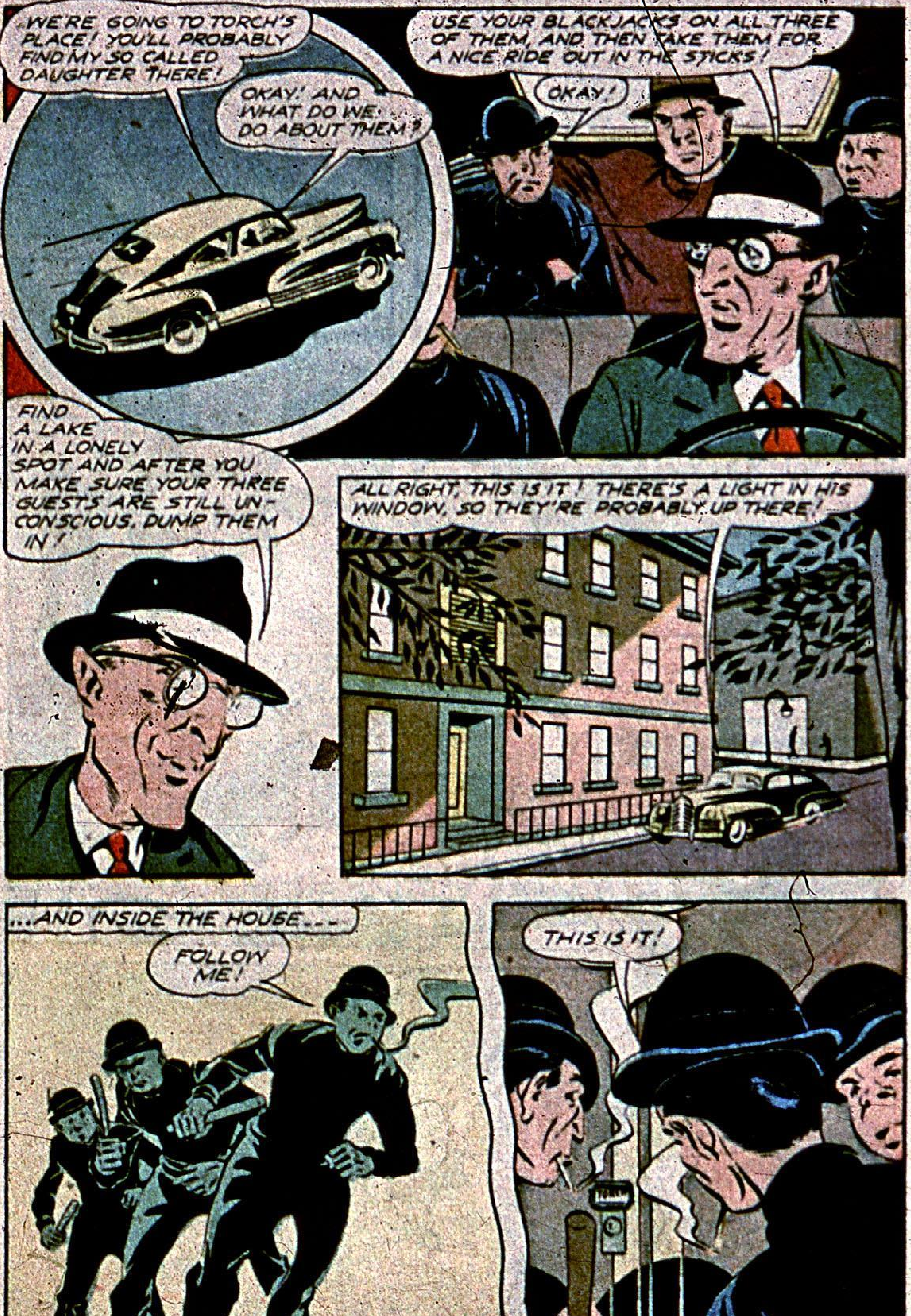

GET UP AND FIGHT THEM YOU YELLOW BELLIED---
WHAT KIND OF A McCARTHY ARE YOU ANYWAY!
IT LOOKS LIKE TWO OF THEM HAVE THAT POOR KID DOWN, AND THERE COME THREE MORE AFTER HIM!
FIVE TO ONE! LET'S STOP IT!
WHY, I OUGHT TO BLAST THAT YELLOW STREAK RIGHT OUT OF YOU!
TUT-TUT GENTLEMEN! FIVE TO ONE IS HARDLY FAIR, IS IT?
OR DIDN'T YOU PEOPLE EVER LEARN TO COUNT?
HUH!
WHAT TH...?
HEY!
WE CAN'T TURN OUT STEEL IF WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT AMONG OURSELVES, GENTLEMEN!
HEY, WHO DO YOU GUYS THINK YOU ARE ANYWAY BUSTIN' IN WHERE YOU AIN'T ASKED...
QUIET, SON! BEFORE I GET HOT UNDER THE COLLAR AND QUIET YOU!
BESIDES, THERE'S NOTHING VERY ADMIRABLE ABOUT FIGHTING! ANY FOOL CAN FIGHT... IT'S KNOWING WHEN TO FIGHT THAT'S IMPORTANT!

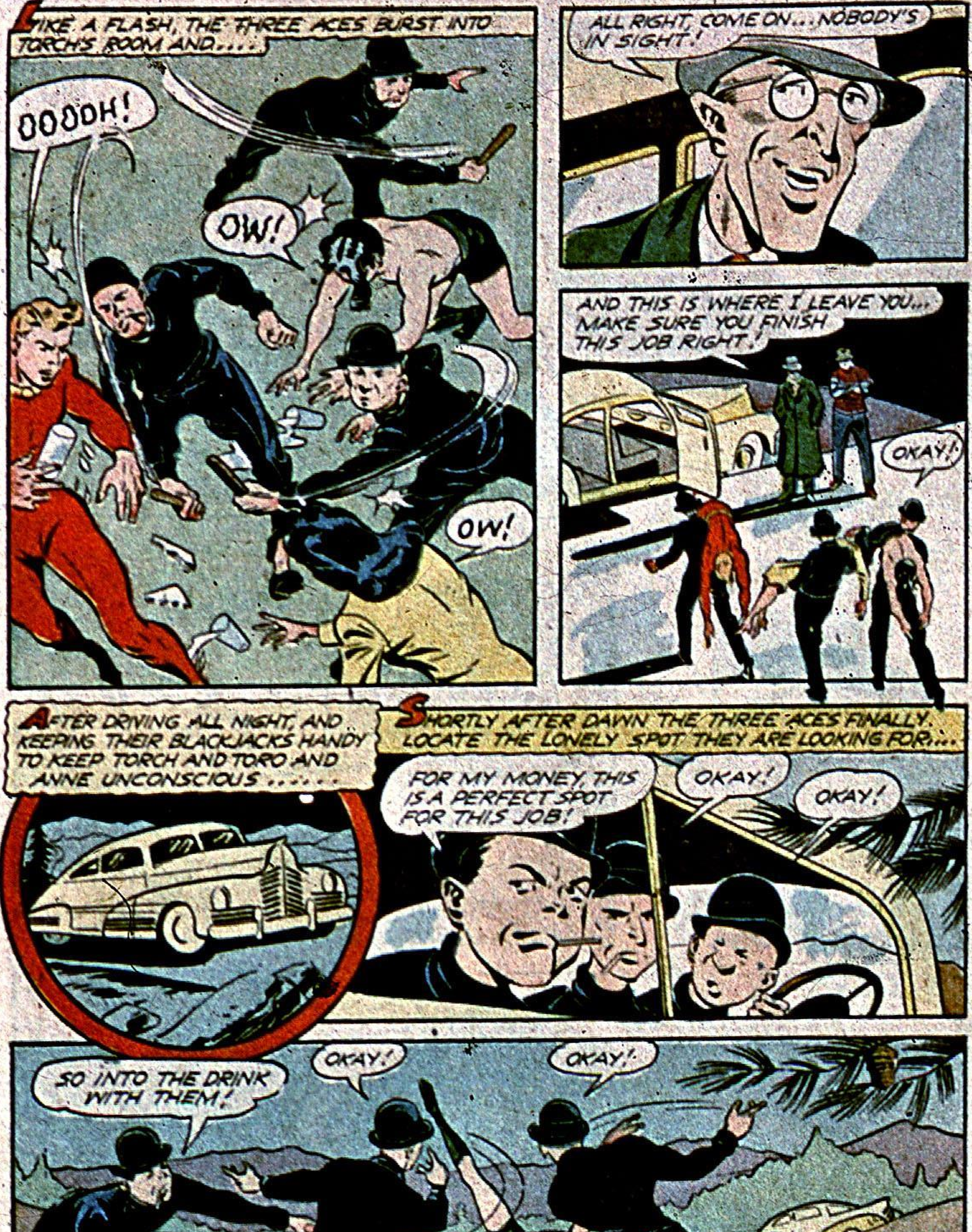

SO LET'S ALL GET BACK TO OUR JOBS AND TURN OUT THAT STEEL!
BUT LET'S LEAVE THE APEX STEEL MILLS AND SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN A RIVAL COMPANY, BLACKSTONE STEEL MILLS....
RIGHT, TORCH!
THOSE MEN ARE HERE, FATHER!
SEND THEM IN!
ALL RIGHT, THIS IS IT! I PICKED YOU MEN FOR THIS JOB BECAUSE YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE GOOD WORK FOR ME! I FIGURE I CAN COUNT ON YOU!
SURE, BOSS!
SILENCE! YOU DON'T NEED TO ANSWER ME! ... SO WHAT YOU DO IS THIS---

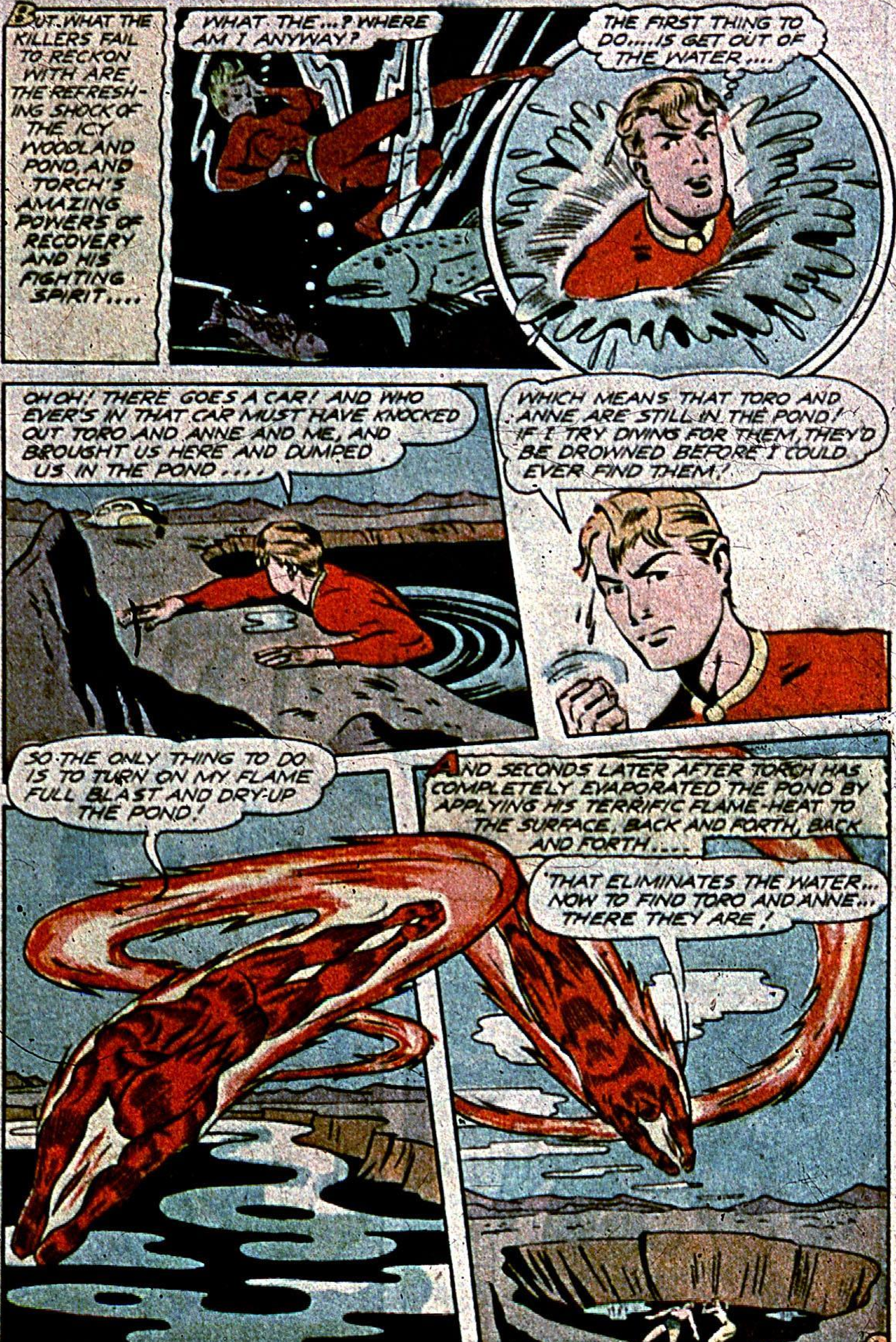

AND SO AS TORCH AND TORO WALK HOME WITH BILL McCARTHY THAT EVENING....
YES, I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET A ROOM SOME WHERE! I DON'T THINK MY DAD WOULD WANT ME AROUND THE HOUSE ANYMORE....
BUT THERE MUST BE SOME WAY THE THING CAN BE STRAIGHTENED OUT...
I'M AFRAID NOT, TORCH! THEY'RE CONVINCED NOW THAT I'M JUST PLAIN YELLOW!
SEE YOU TO-MORROW, BOYS!
GOOD NIGHT, BILL!
SUDDENLY, TORCH AND TORO WITNESS FOR THE SECOND TIME THAT DAY, A VIOLENT AND UNFAIR ATTACK....
OH-OH! WHAT HAVE WE NOW....! THREE AGAINST ONE THIS TIME! DOESN'T ANYBODY FIGHT FAIR ANY MORE? AND IT'S THREE MEN AGAINST A GIRL!
HELP!
OW-W-W...

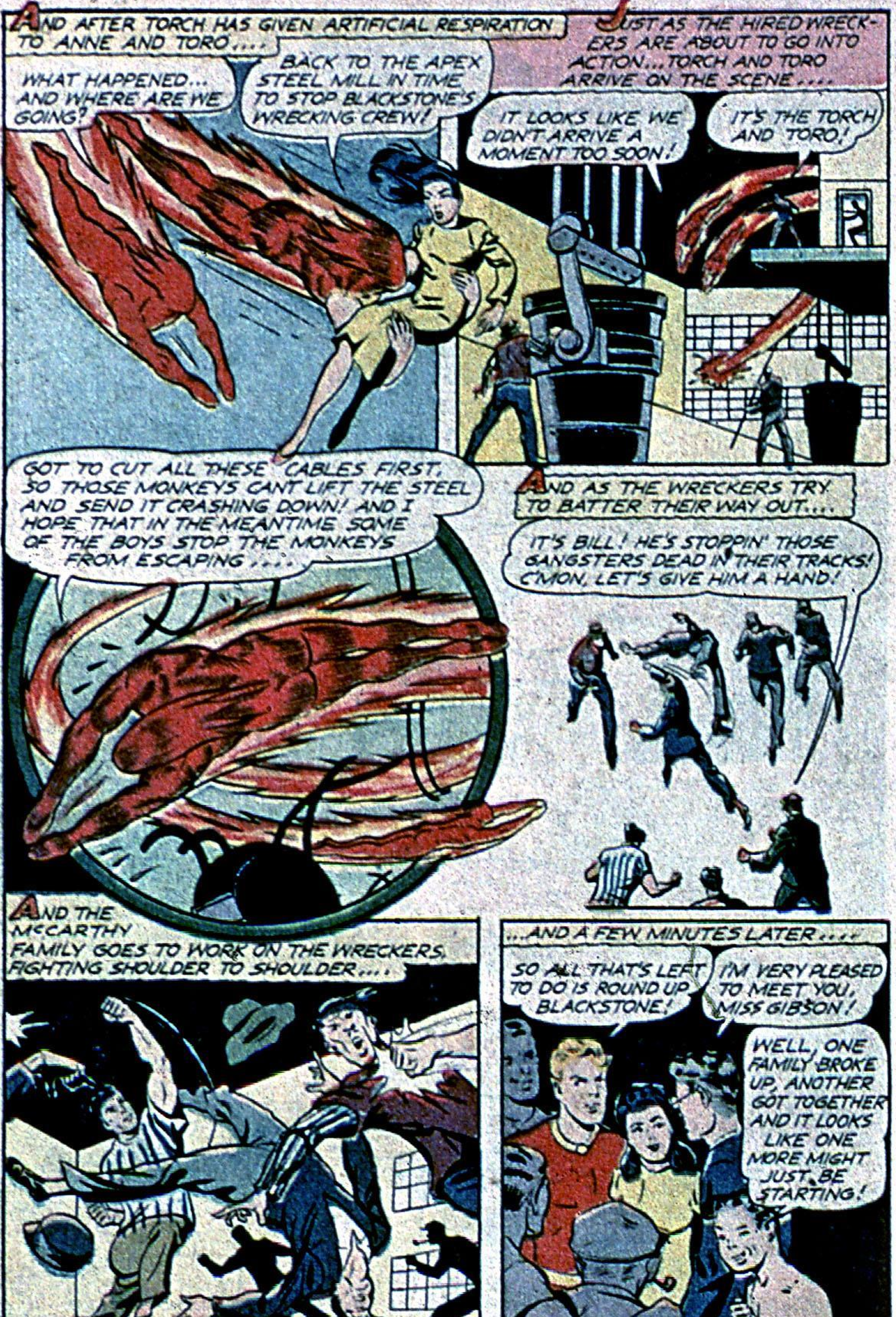

THIS RING OF FLAME WILL HOLD THEM UNTIL THE COPS COME!
GUESS THE THIRD ONE GOT AWAY, TORCH!
...AND MOMENTS LATER.....
I THINK WE'D BETTER ESCORT YOU HOME, MISS... UH...ER...
MY NAME IS ANNE GIBSON, AND CARTER BLACKSTONE, THE PRESIDENT OF BLACKSTONE STEEL IS MY STEPFATHER..... AND I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME EVER AGAIN....
WELL, THEN WE'LL GO UP TO OUR PLACE AND HAVE A LITTLE SNACK, THEN WE CAN TALK EVERYTHING OVER!
YES, THERE IS A GREAT DEAL I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT!
SAY, I'LL WHIP UP MY SPECIALTY... SCRAMBLED EGGS AND STRAWBERRY JAM ON TOAST!
AFTER TORO HAS WHIPPED UP HIS SPECIALTY.....
YOU SEE, MY STEP FATHER IS A CRUEL AND RUTHLESS MAN! HE WILL STOP AT NOTHING IN HIS CONSUMING AMBITION TO BECOME THE RICHEST, MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE COUNTRY!
MY GOSH!
RIGHT NOW, IN ORDER TO GET A BIG CONTRACT AWAY FROM THE APEX STEEL MILL, HE IS SENDING FIVE OF HIS TOUGHEST HIRELINGS TO WRECK THE WORK APEX HAS DONE ON THE CONTRACT!
7

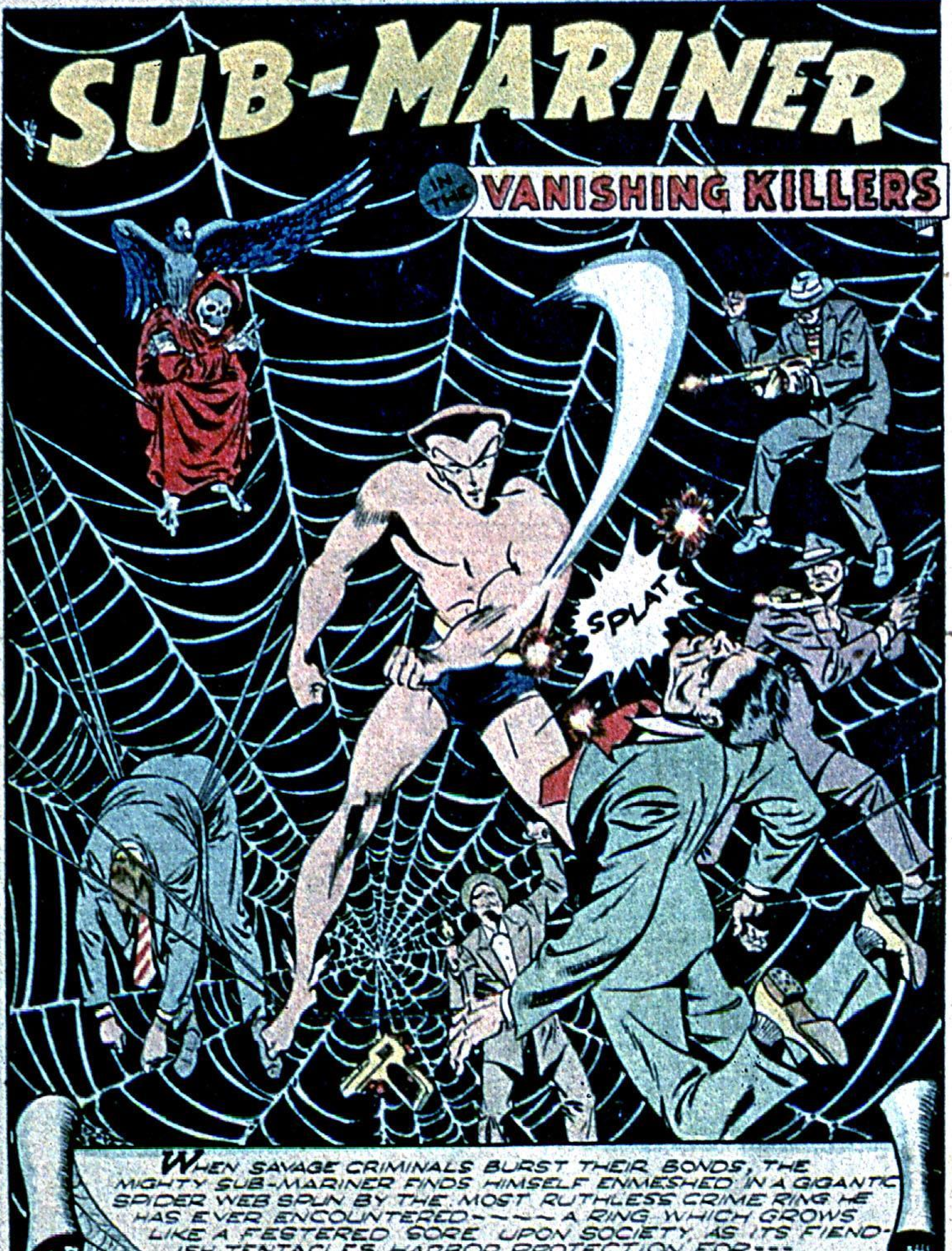

WHY, THE APEX MILLS IS WHERE WE'RE WORKING...
TO-MORROW AT NOON, WHEN MOST OF THE MEN ARE OUT TO LUNCH, THESE HIRED WRECKERS WILL OPERATE THE APEX OVERHEAD CRANES SENDING GREAT LOADS OF STEEL CRASHING DOWN ONTO THEIR EQUIPMENT!
I JUST COULDN'T STAND BY AND WATCH THIS HAPPEN... I WAS ON MY WAY TO THE APEX MILL TO WARN THEM! MY FATHER MUST HAVE HAD THOSE THUGS SHADOW ME!
WELL, YOU CAN JUST FORGET THE WHOLE THING NOW... TORO AND I WILL TAKE OVER FROM HERE ON OUT!
BUT THE THUG WHO ESCAPED....
BOSS! JUST AS WE WAS GRABBIN' YOUR DAUGHTER, TORCH AND TORO CRACKED DOWN ON US!
YOU BUNGLING IMBECILES! SHE WILL TALK TO TORCH! WE MUST FIND THEM AT ONCE!
I'LL PUT MY PRIZE CREW ON THEM... THE THREE ACES!
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
ALL RIGHT, GET IN THERE FAST, TELL THE ACES I WANT THEM!
WHAT'S UP, BOSS?
PLENTY, GET IN!
8

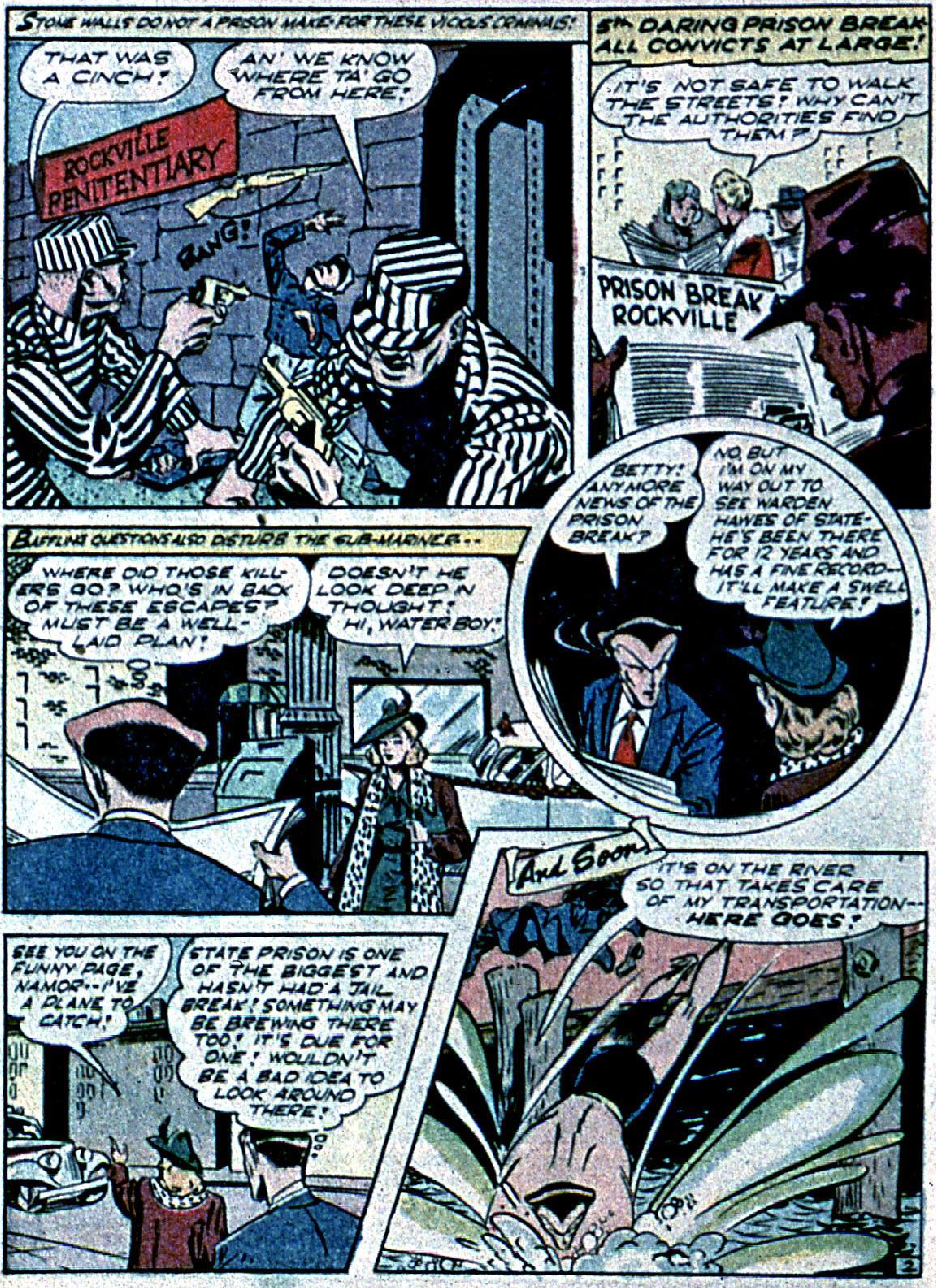

WE'RE GOING TO TORCH'S PLACE! YOU'LL PROBABLY FIND MY SO CALLED DAUGHTER THERE!
OKAY! AND WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THEM?
USE YOUR BLACKJACKS ON ALL THREE OF THEM, AND THEN TAKE THEM FOR A NICE RIDE OUT IN THE STICKS!
OKAY!
FIND A LAKE IN A LONELY SPOT AND AFTER YOU MAKE SURE YOUR THREE GUESTS ARE STILL UNCONSCIOUS. DUMP THEM IN!
ALL RIGHT, THIS IS IT! THERE'S A LIGHT IN HIS WINDOW, SO THEY'RE PROBABLY UP THERE!
...AND INSIDE THE HOUSE...
FOLLOW ME!
THIS IS IT!

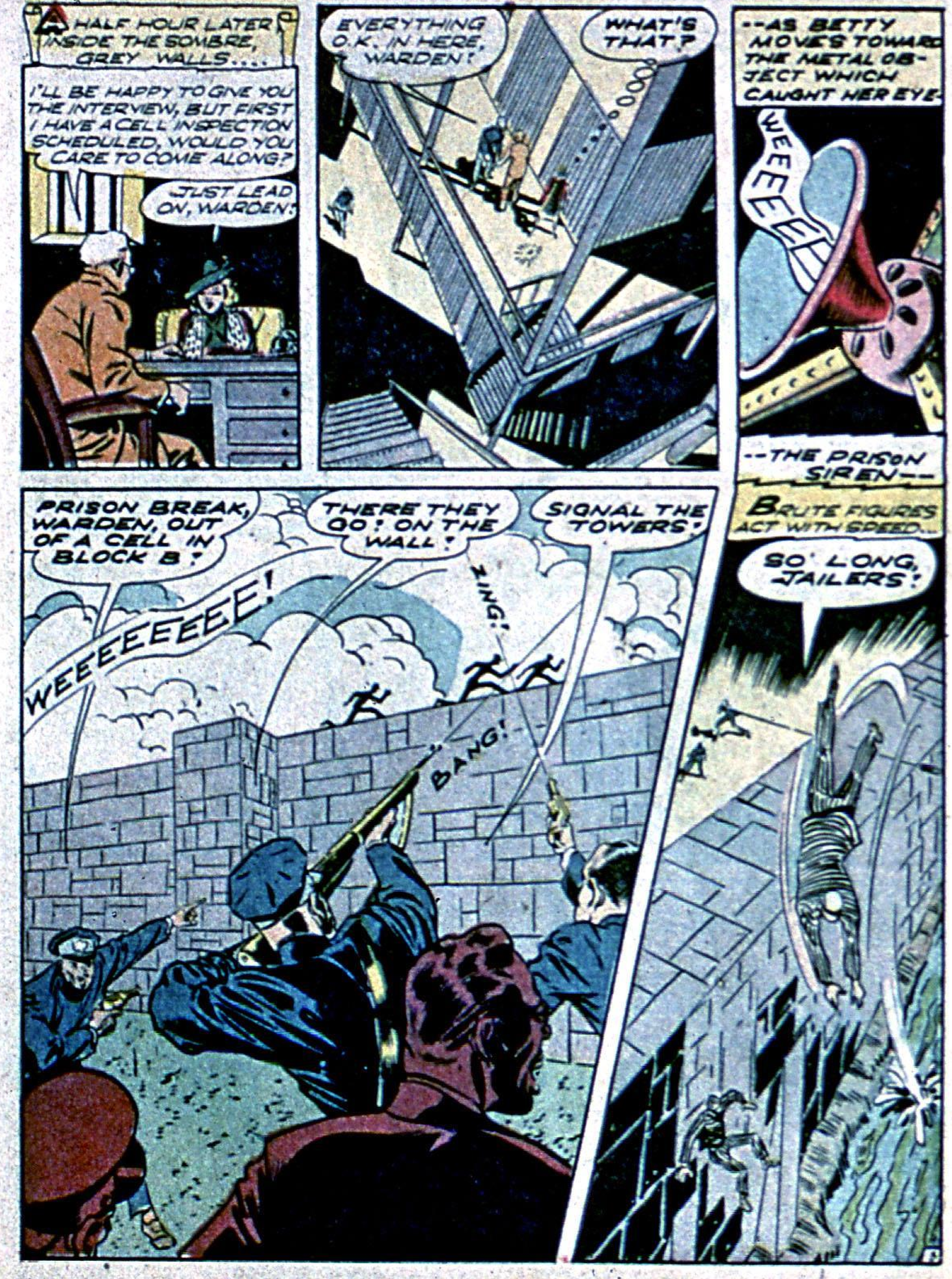

LIKE A FLASH, THE THREE ACES BURST INTO TORCH'S ROOM AND....
OOOOH!
OW!
OW!
ALL RIGHT, COME ON... NOBODY'S IN SIGHT!
AND THIS IS WHERE I LEAVE YOU... MAKE SURE YOU FINISH THIS JOB RIGHT!
OKAY!
AFTER DRIVING ALL NIGHT, AND KEEPING THEIR BLACKJACKS HANDY TO KEEP TORCH AND TORO AND ANNE UNCONSCIOUS.....
SHORTLY AFTER DAWN THE THREE ACES FINALLY LOCATE THE LONELY SPOT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR....
FOR MY MONEY, THIS IS A PERFECT SPOT FOR THIS JOB!
OKAY!
OKAY!
SO INTO THE DRINK WITH THEM!
OKAY!
OKAY!

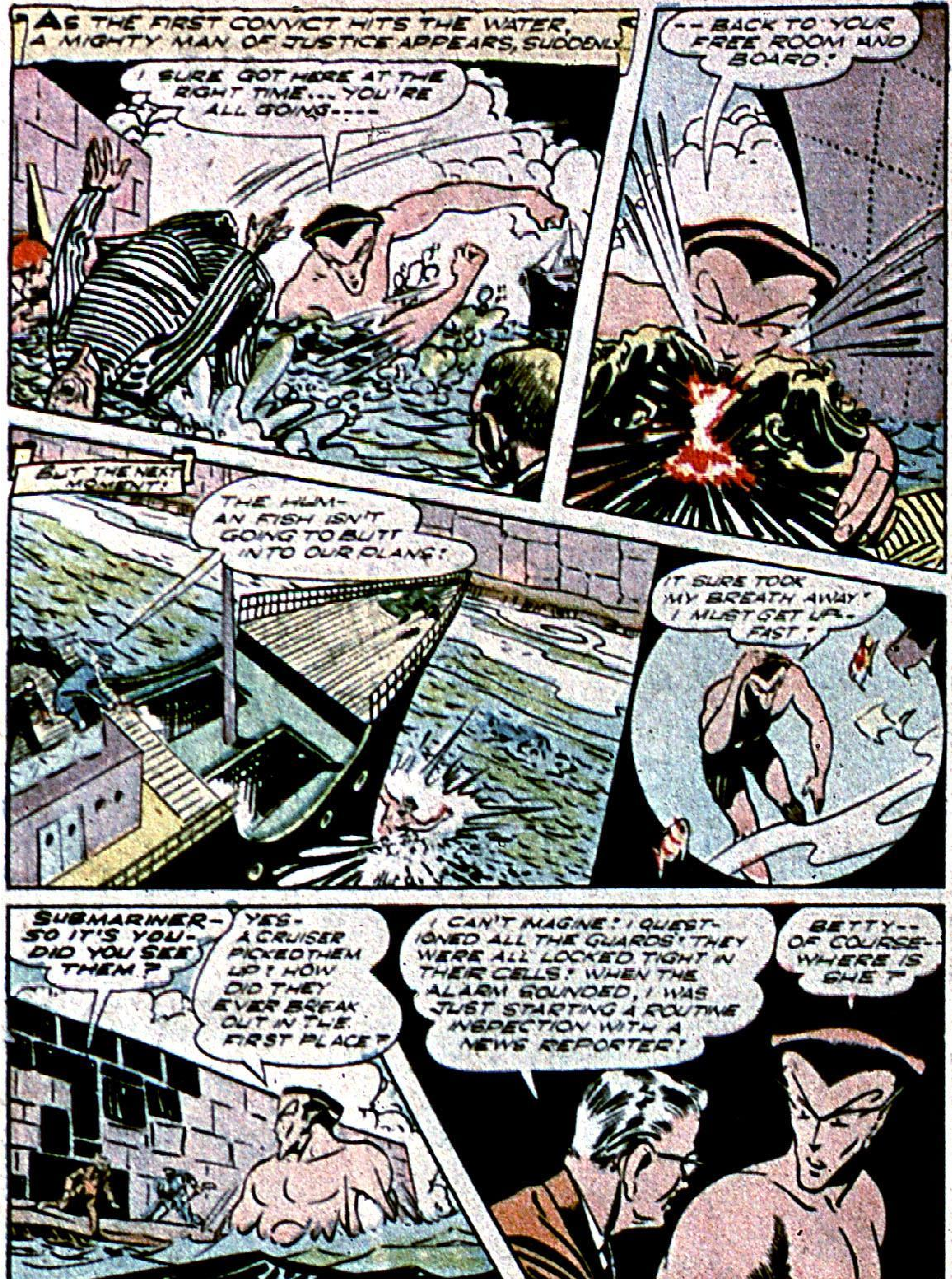

BUT WHAT THE KILLERS FAIL TO RECKON WITH ARE, THE REFRESHING SHOCK OF THE ICY WOODLAND POND, AND TORCH'S AMAZING POWERS OF RECOVERY AND HIS FIGHTING SPIRIT....
WHAT THE...? WHERE AM I ANYWAY?
THE FIRST THING TO DO....IS GET OUT OF THE WATER....
OH OH! THERE GOES A CAR! AND WHO EVER'S IN THAT CAR MUST HAVE KNOCKED OUT TORO AND ANNE AND ME, AND BROUGHT US HERE AND DUMPED US IN THE POND....
WHICH MEANS THAT TORO AND ANNE ARE STILL IN THE POND! IF I TRY DIVING FOR THEM, THEY'D BE DROWNED BEFORE I COULD EVER FIND THEM!
SO THE ONLY THING TO DO IS TO TURN ON MY FLAME FULL BLAST AND DRY-UP THE POND!
AND SECONDS LATER AFTER TORCH HAS COMPLETELY EVAPORATED THE POND BY APPLYING HIS TERRIFIC FLAME-HEAT TO THE SURFACE, BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH....
THAT ELIMINATES THE WATER... NOW TO FIND TORO AND ANNE... THERE THEY ARE!

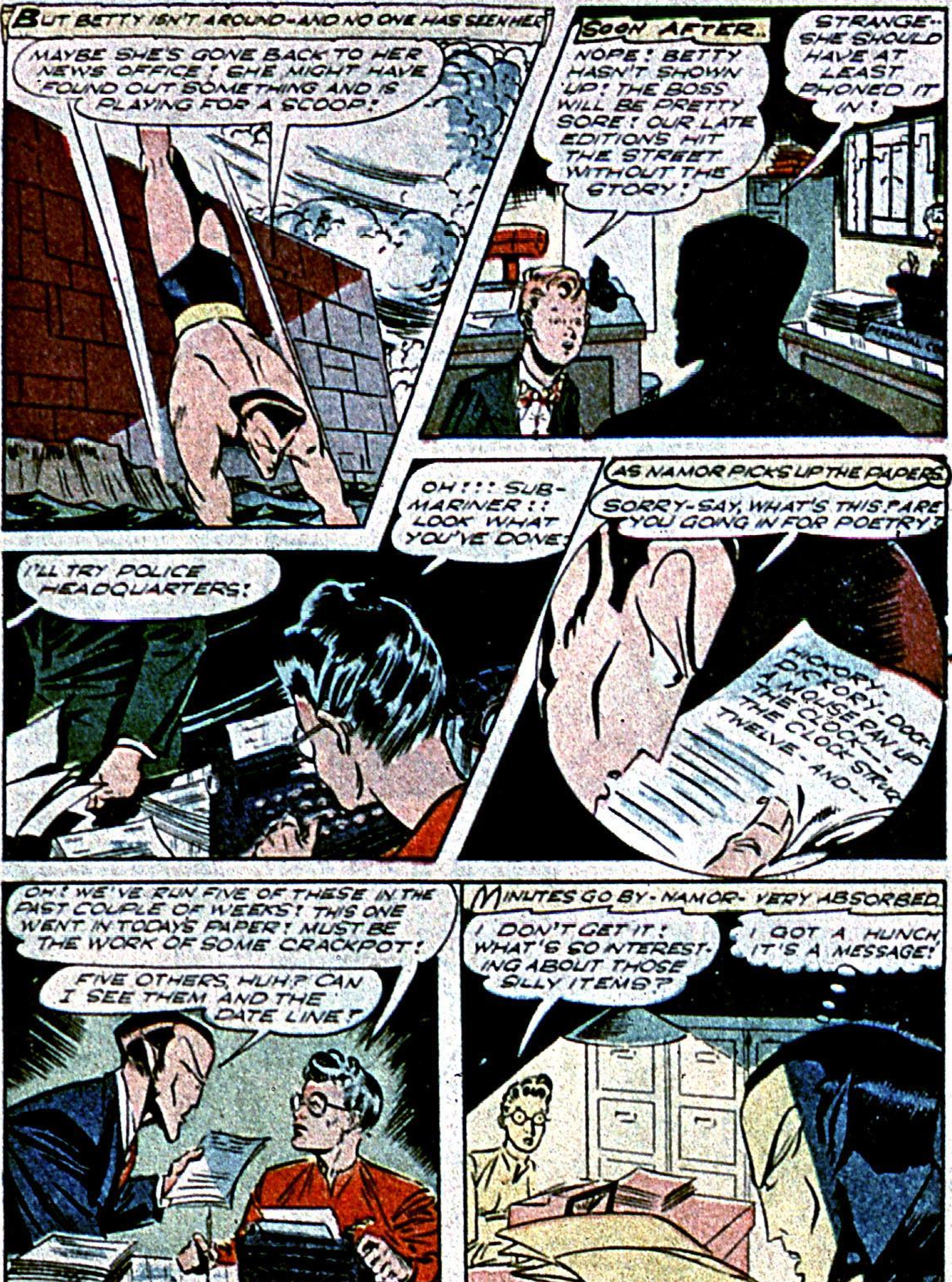

AND AFTER TORCH HAS GIVEN ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION TO ANNE AND TORO....
WHAT HAPPENED... AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?
BACK TO THE APEX STEEL MILL IN TIME TO STOP BLACKSTONE'S WRECKING CREW!
JUST AS THE HIRED WRECKERS ARE ABOUT TO GO INTO ACTION...TORCH AND TORO ARRIVE ON THE SCENE....
IT LOOKS LIKE WE DIDN'T ARRIVE A MOMENT TOO SOON!
IT'S THE TORCH AND TORO!
GOT TO CUT ALL THESE CABLES FIRST, SO THOSE MONKEYS CAN'T LIFT THE STEEL AND SEND IT CRASHING DOWN! AND I HOPE THAT IN THE MEANTIME SOME OF THE BOYS STOP THE MONKEYS FROM ESCAPING....
AND AS THE WRECKERS TRY TO BATTER THEIR WAY OUT....
IT'S BILL! HE'S STOPPIN' THOSE GANGSTERS DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS! C'MON, LET'S GIVE HIM A HAND!
AND THE McCARTHY FAMILY GOES TO WORK ON THE WRECKERS, FIGHTING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER....
...AND A FEW MINUTES LATER....
SO ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO IS ROUND UP BLACKSTONE!
I'M VERY PLEASED TO MEET YOU, MISS GIBSON!
WELL, ONE FAMILY BROKE UP, ANOTHER GOT TOGETHER AND IT LOOKS LIKE ONE MORE MIGHT JUST BE STARTING!
THE END

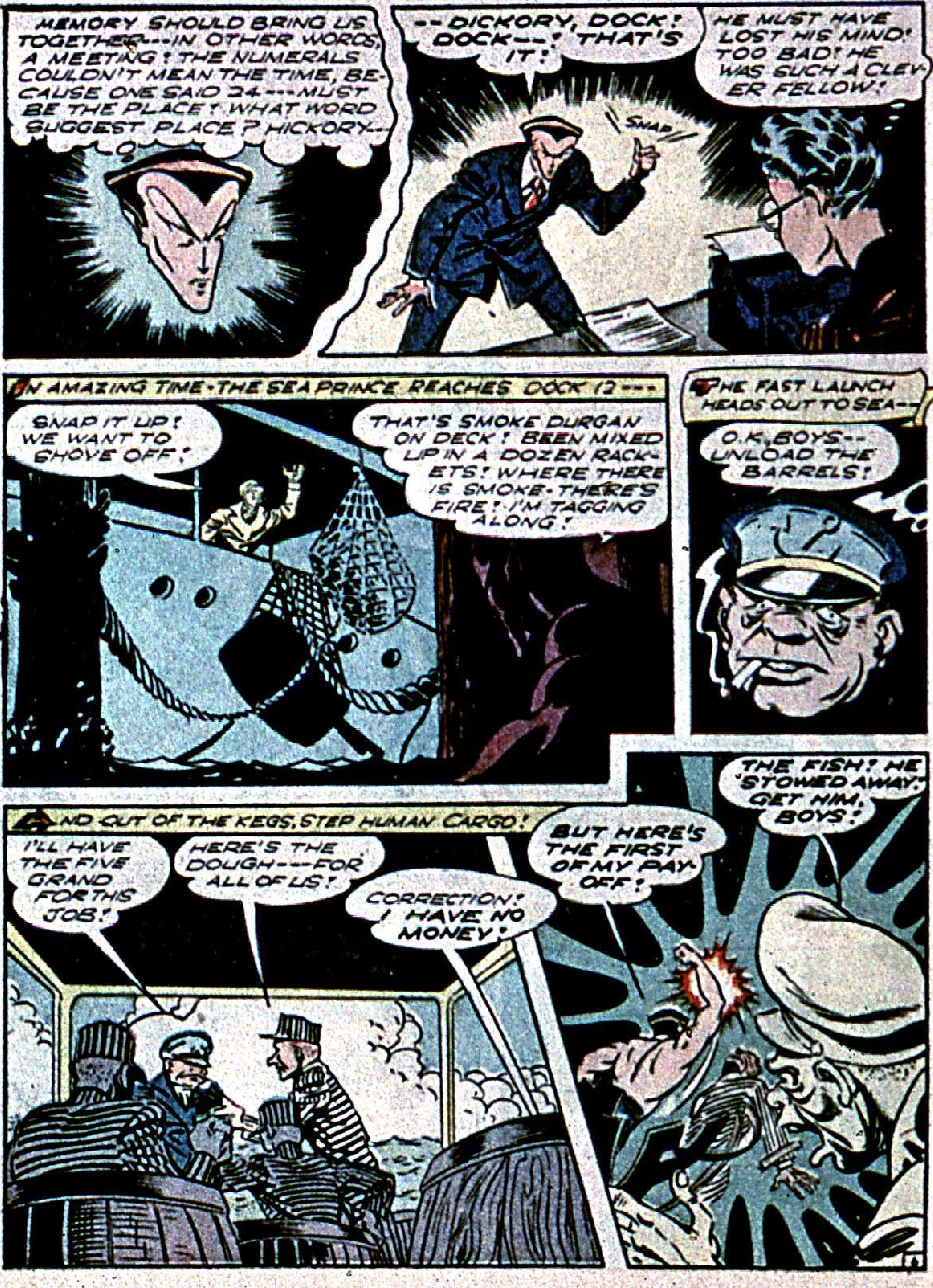

SUB-MARINER
IN THE VANISHING KILLERS
SPLAT
WHEN SAVAGE CRIMINALS BURST THEIR BONDS, THE MIGHTY SUB-MARINER FINDS HIMSELF ENMESHED IN A GIGANTIC SPIDER WEB SPUN BY THE MOST RUTHLESS CRIME RING HE HAS EVER ENCOUNTERED- - - - - A RING WHICH GROWS LIKE A FESTERED SORE UPON SOCIETY AS ITS FIENDISH TENTACLES HARBOR PROTECTION FOR- - -
THE VANISHING KILLERS
R-182

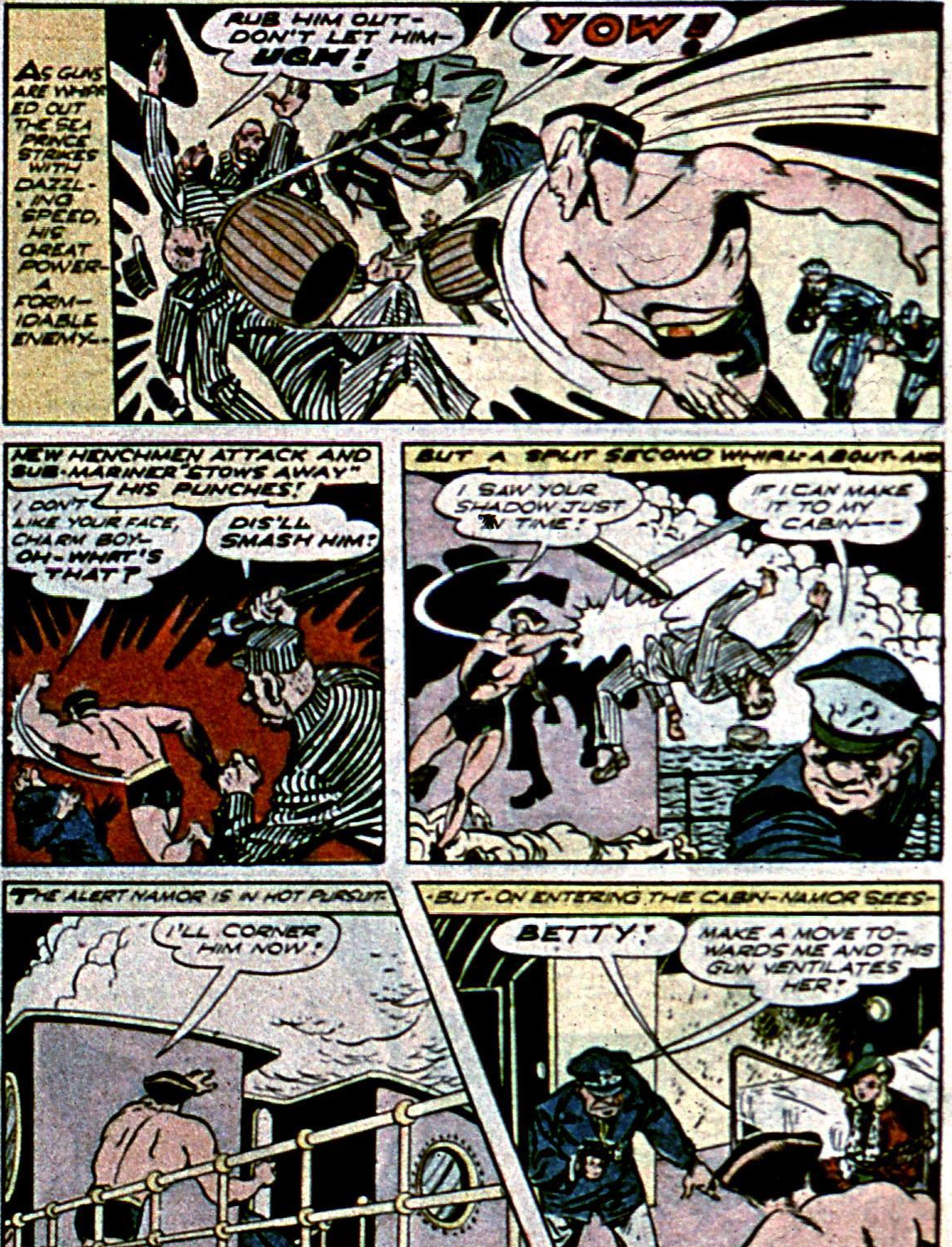

STONE WALLS DO NOT A PRISON MAKE-FOR THESE VICIOUS CRIMINALS!
THAT WAS A CINCH!
AN' WE KNOW WHERE TA' GO FROM HERE!
ROCKVILLE PENITENTIARY
BANG!
5th DARING PRISON BREAK-ALL CONVICTS AT LARGE!
IT'S NOT SAFE TO WALK THE STREETS! WHY CAN'T THE AUTHORITIES FIND THEM?
PRISON BREAK ROCKVILLE
BAFFLING QUESTIONS ALSO DISTURB THE SUB-MARINER--
WHERE DID THOSE KILLERS GO? WHO'S IN BACK OF THESE ESCAPES? MUST BE A WELL-LAID PLAN!
DOESN'T HE LOOK DEEP IN THOUGHT! HI, WATER-BOY!
BETTY! ANYMORE NEWS OF THE PRISON BREAK?
NO, BUT I'M ON MY WAY OUT TO SEE WARDEN HAWES OF STATE-HE'S BEEN THERE FOR 12 YEARS AND HAS A FINE RECORD--IT'LL MAKE A SWELL FEATURE!
SEE YOU ON THE FUNNY PAGE, NAMOR--I'VE A PLANE TO CATCH!
STATE PRISON IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST AND HASN'T HAD A JAIL BREAK! SOMETHING MAY BE BREWING THERE TOO! IT'S DUE FOR ONE! WOULDN'T BE A BAD IDEA TO LOOK AROUND THERE!
And Soon
IT'S ON THE RIVER SO THAT TAKES CARE OF MY TRANSPORTATION--HERE GOES!
2

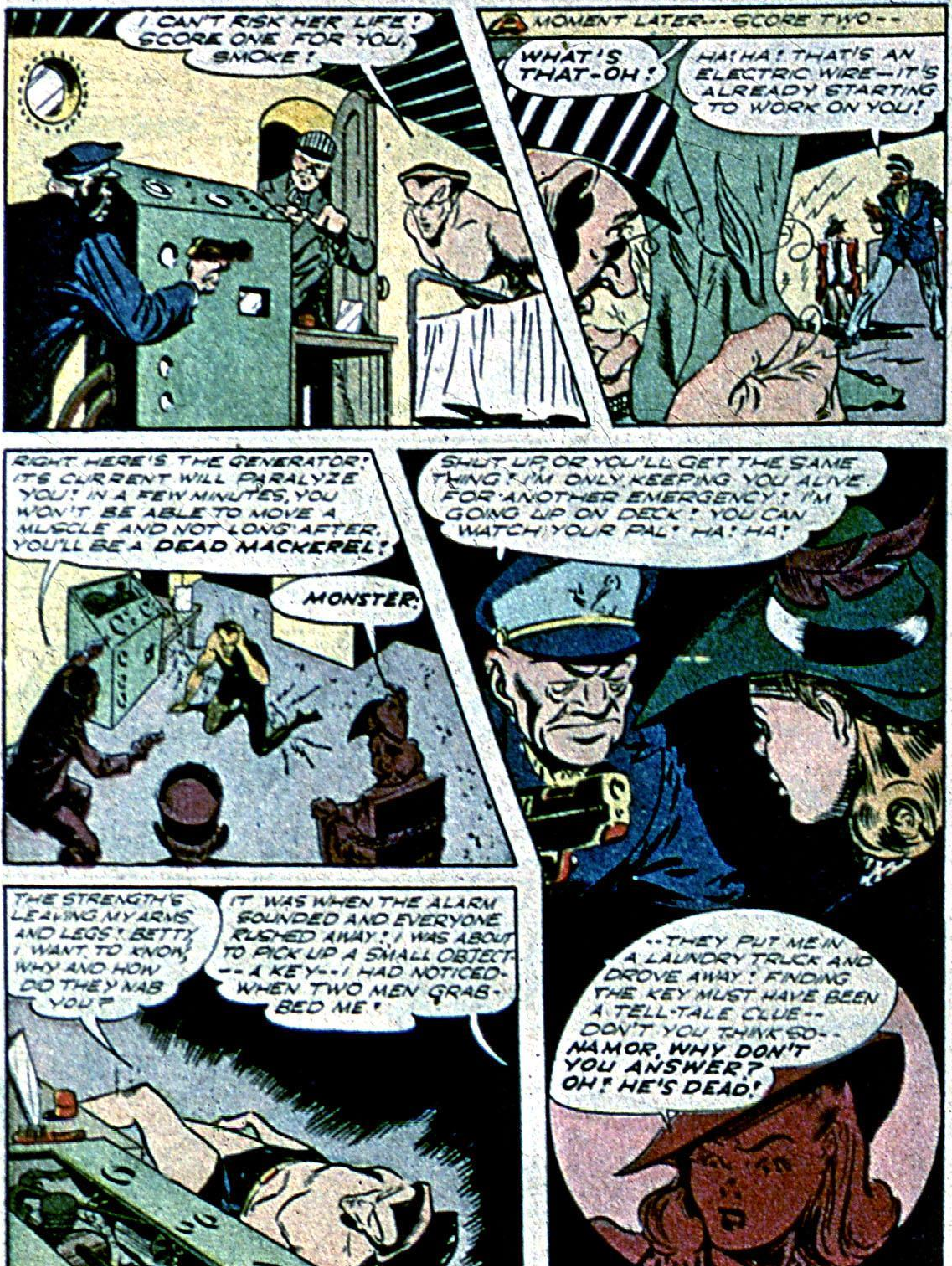

A HALF HOUR LATER INSIDE THE SOMBRE, GREY WALLS....
I'LL BE HAPPY TO GIVE YOU THE INTERVIEW, BUT FIRST I HAVE A CELL INSPECTION SCHEDULED, WOULD YOU CARE TO COME ALONG?
JUST LEAD ON, WARDEN!
EVERYTHING O.K. IN HERE, WARDEN!
WHAT'S THAT?
--AS BETTY MOVES TOWARD THE METAL OBJECT WHICH CAUGHT HER EYE--
WEEEEE
--THE PRISON SIREN--
PRISON BREAK, WARDEN, OUT OF A CELL IN BLOCK B!
THERE THEY GO! ON THE WALL!
SIGNAL THE TOWERS!
WEEEEEEEEE!
ZING!
BANG!
BRUTE FIGURES ACT WITH SPEED...
SO' LONG, JAILERS!

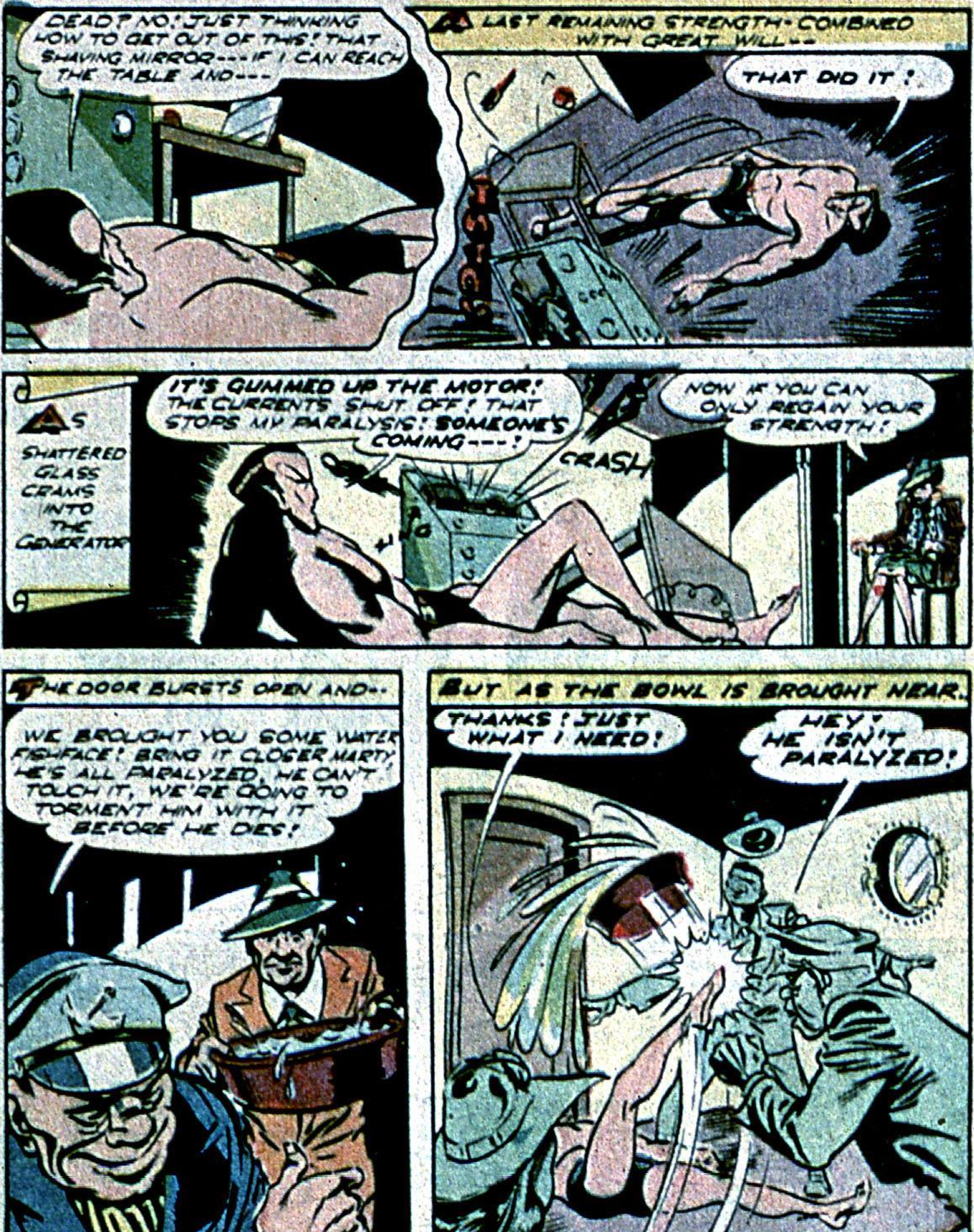

AS THE FIRST CONVICT HITS THE WATER, A MIGHTY MAN OF JUSTICE APPEARS, SUDDENLY
I SURE GOT HERE AT THE RIGHT TIME... YOU'RE ALL GOING----
--BACK TO YOUR FREE ROOM AND BOARD!
BUT THE NEXT MOMENT!
THE HUMAN FISH ISN'T GOING TO BUTT INTO OUR PLANS!
IT SURE TOOK MY BREATH AWAY! I MUST GET UP-- FAST!
SUBMARINER-- SO IT'S YOU-- DID YOU SEE THEM?
YES-- A CRUISER PICKED THEM UP! HOW DID THEY EVER BREAK OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
I CAN'T IMAGINE! I QUESTIONED ALL THE GUARDS! THEY WERE ALL LOCKED TIGHT IN THEIR CELLS! WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDED, I WAS JUST STARTING A ROUTINE INSPECTION WITH A NEWS REPORTER!
BETTY-- OF COURSE-- WHERE IS SHE?

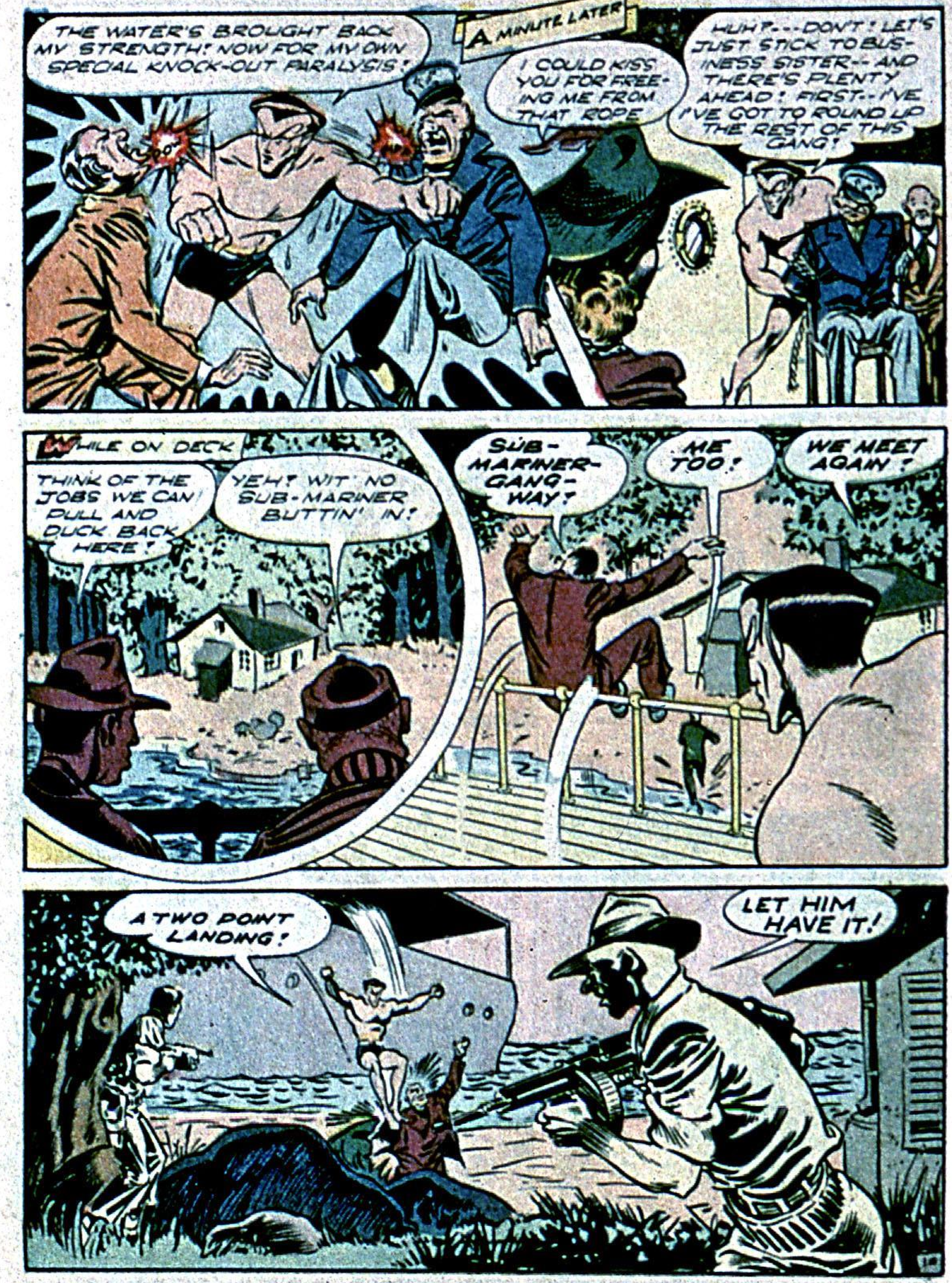

BUT BETTY ISN'T AROUND-AND NO ONE HAS SEEN HER
MAYBE SHE'S GONE BACK TO HER NEWS OFFICE! SHE MIGHT HAVE FOUND OUT SOMETHING AND IS PLAYING FOR A SCOOP!
SOON AFTER..
NOPE! BETTY HASN'T SHOWN UP! THE BOSS WILL BE PRETTY SORE! OUR LATE EDITIONS HIT THE STREET WITHOUT THE STORY!
STRANGE-- SHE SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST PHONED IT IN!
I'LL TRY POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
OH!!! SUB-MARINER!! LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE-
AS NAMOR PICKS UP THE PAPERS
SORRY-SAY, WHAT'S THIS? ARE YOU GOING IN FOR POETRY?
HICKORY-DICKORY-DOCK-A MOUSE RAN UP THE CLOCK--THE CLOCK STRUCK TWELVE-AND--
OH! WE'VE RUN FIVE OF THESE IN THE PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS! THIS ONE WENT IN TODAY'S PAPER! MUST BE THE WORK OF SOME CRACKPOT!
FIVE OTHERS, HUH? CAN I SEE THEM AND THE DATE LINE?
MINUTES GO BY- NAMOR- VERY ABSORBED
I DON'T GET IT! WHAT'S SO INTERESTING ABOUT THOSE SILLY ITEMS?
I GOT A HUNCH IT'S A MESSAGE!

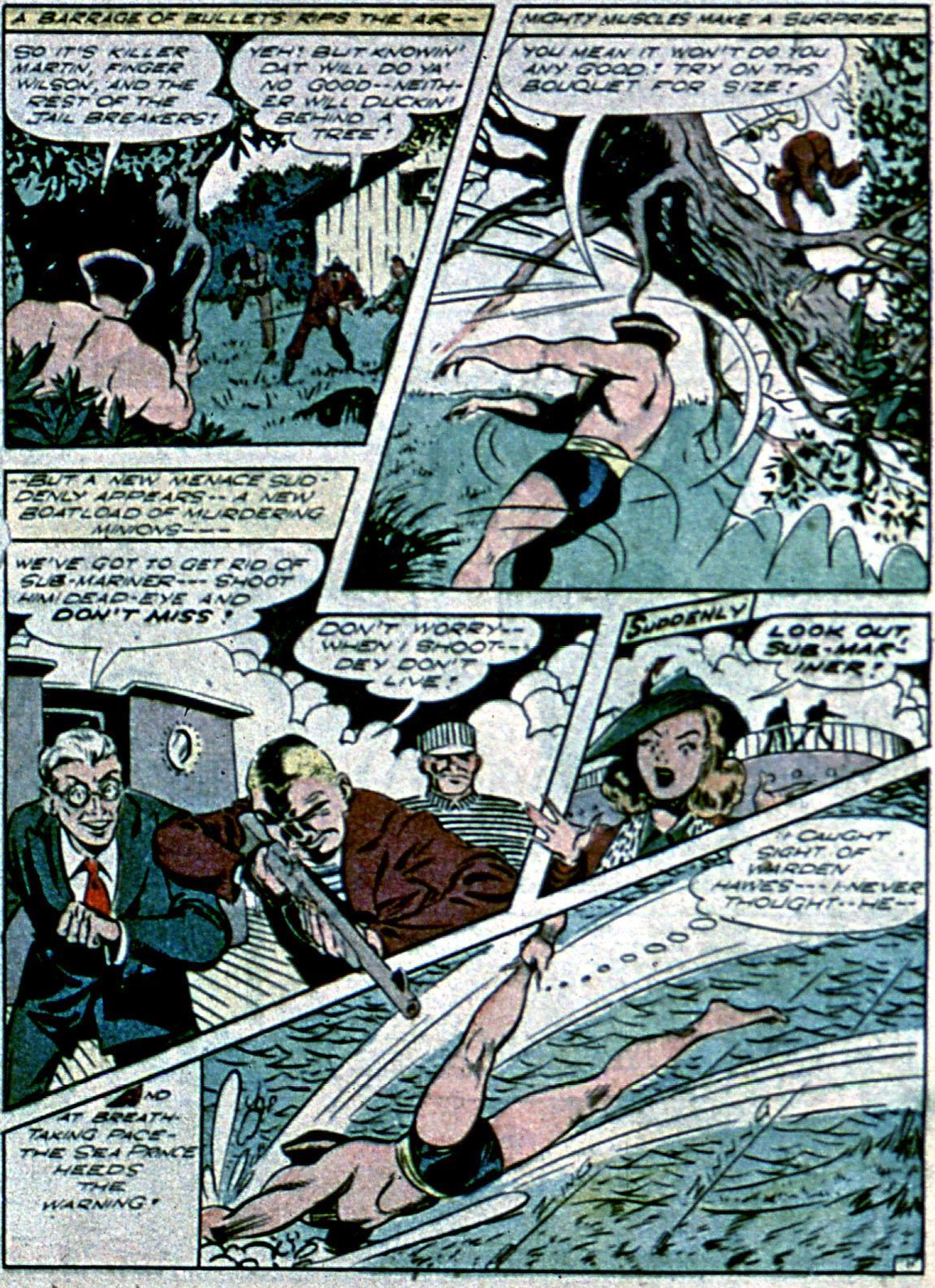

MEMORY SHOULD BRING US TOGETHER---IN OTHER WORDS, A MEETING! THE NUMERALS COULDN'T MEAN THE TIME, BECAUSE ONE SAID 24---MUST BE THE PLACE! WHAT WORD SUGGEST PLACE? HICKORY--
--DICKORY, DOCK! DOCK--! THAT'S IT!
SNAP
HE MUST HAVE LOST HIS MIND! TOO BAD! HE WAS SUCH A CLEVER FELLOW!
IN AMAZING TIME-THE SEA PRINCE REACHES DOCK 12---
SNAP IT UP! WE WANT TO SHOVE OFF!
THAT'S SMOKE DURGAN ON DECK! BEEN MIXED UP IN A DOZEN RACKETS! WHERE THERE IS SMOKE-THERE'S FIRE! I'M TAGGING ALONG!
THE FAST LAUNCH HEADS OUT TO SEA--
O.K. BOYS--UNLOAD THE BARRELS!
AND OUT OF THE KEGS, STEP HUMAN CARGO!
I'LL HAVE THE FIVE GRAND FOR THIS JOB!
HERE'S THE DOUGH---FOR ALL OF US!
CORRECTION! I HAVE NO MONEY!
BUT HERE'S THE FIRST OF MY PAY-OFF!
THE FISH! HE "STOWED AWAY." GET HIM, BOYS!

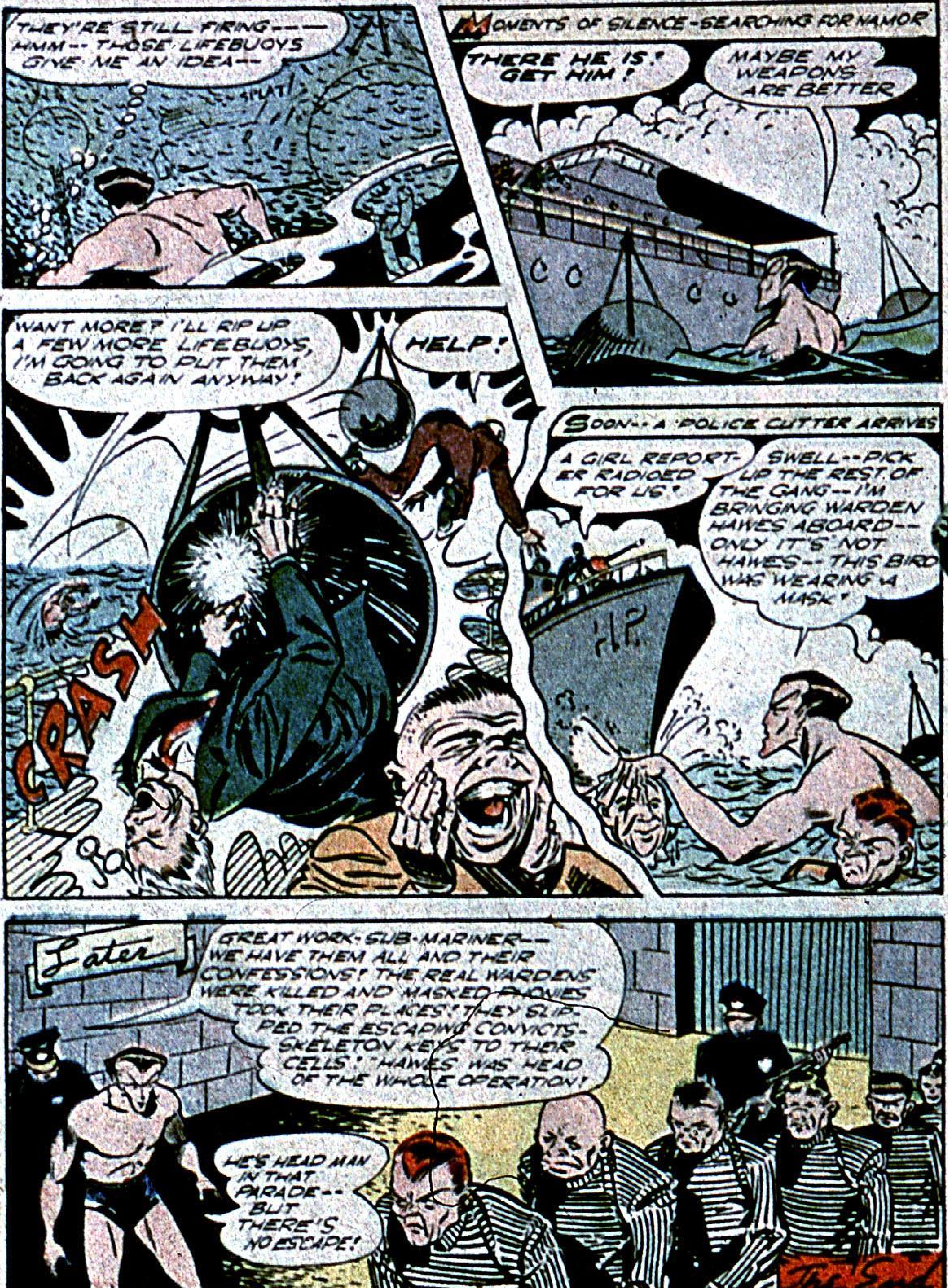

AS GUNS ARE WHIPPED OUT THE SEA PRINCE STRIKES WITH DAZZLING SPEED, HIS GREAT POWER—A FORMIDABLE ENEMY...
RUB HIM OUT—DON'T LET HIM—UGH!
YOW!
NEW HENCHMEN ATTACK AND SUB-MARINER "STOWS AWAY" HIS PUNCHES!
I DON'T LIKE YOUR FACE, CHARM BOY—OH—WHAT'S THAT?
DIS'LL SMASH HIM!
BUT A SPLIT SECOND WHIRL-ABOUT-AND
I SAW YOUR SHADOW JUST IN TIME!
IF I CAN MAKE IT TO MY CABIN---
THE ALERT NAMOR IS IN HOT PURSUIT-
I'LL CORNER HIM NOW!
-BUT-ON ENTERING THE CABIN-NAMOR SEES-
BETTY!
MAKE A MOVE TOWARDS ME AND THIS GUN VENTILATES HER!

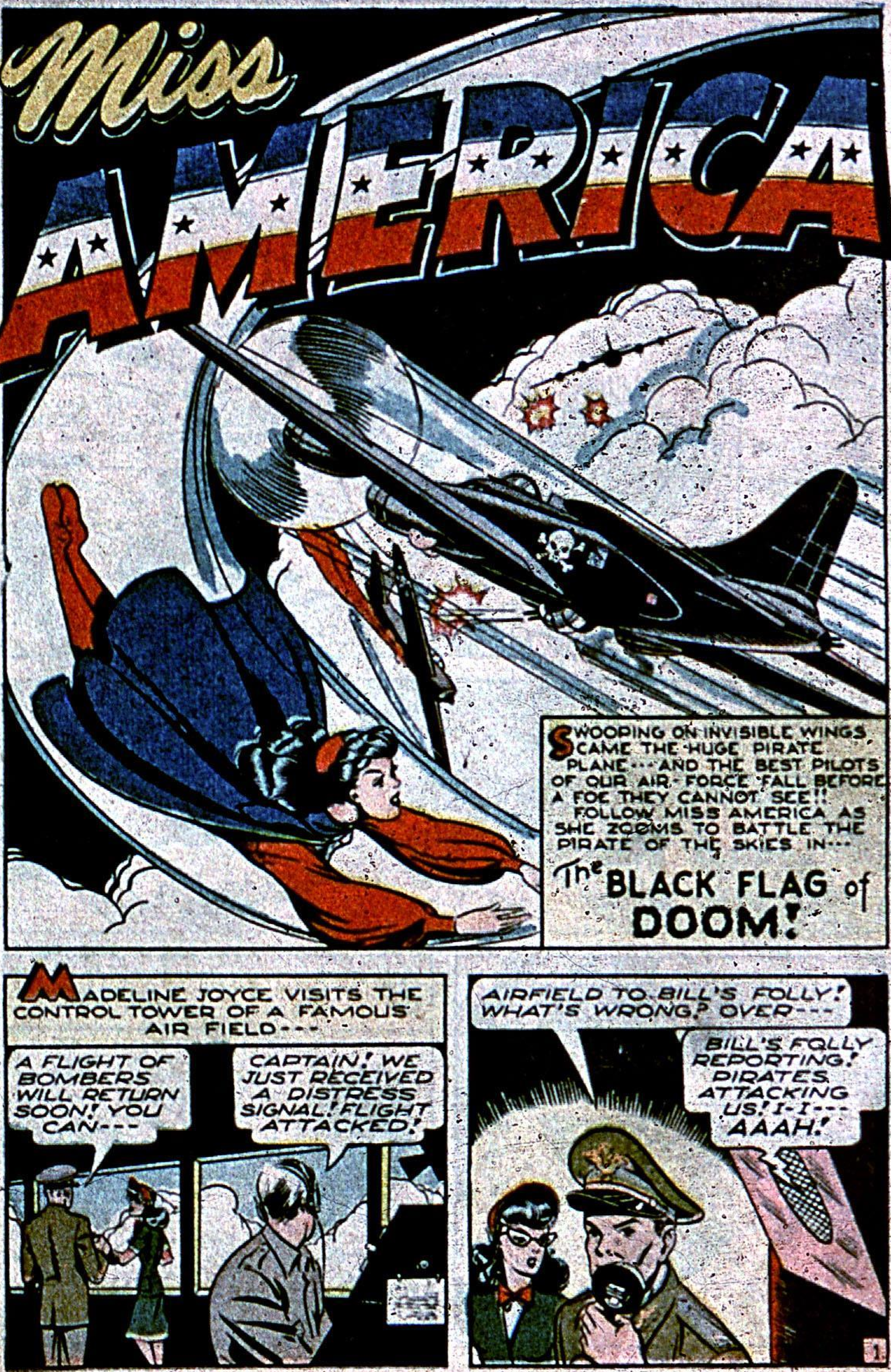

I CAN'T RISK HER LIFE! SCORE ONE FOR YOU, SMOKE!
A MOMENT LATER--- SCORE TWO--
WHAT'S THAT-OH!
HA! HA! THAT'S AN ELECTRIC WIRE—IT'S ALREADY STARTING TO WORK ON YOU!
RIGHT HERE'S THE GENERATOR! IT'S CURRENT WILL PARALYZE YOU! IN A FEW MINUTES, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE A MUSCLE AND NOT LONG AFTER, YOU'LL BE A DEAD MACKEREL!
MONSTER!
SHUT UP, OR YOU'LL GET THE SAME THING! I'M ONLY KEEPING YOU ALIVE FOR ANOTHER EMERGENCY! I'M GOING UP ON DECK! YOU CAN WATCH YOUR PAL! HA! HA!
THE STRENGTH'S LEAVING MY ARMS AND LEGS! BETTY, I WANT TO KNOW WHY AND HOW DID THEY NAB YOU?
IT WAS WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDED AND EVERYONE RUSHED AWAY! I WAS ABOUT TO PICK UP A SMALL OBJECT--A KEY--I HAD NOTICED-WHEN TWO MEN GRABBED ME!
--THEY PUT ME IN A LAUNDRY TRUCK AND DROVE AWAY! FINDING THE KEY MUST HAVE BEEN A TELL-TALE CLUE--DON'T YOU THINK SO-- NAMOR, WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER? OH! HE'S DEAD!
6

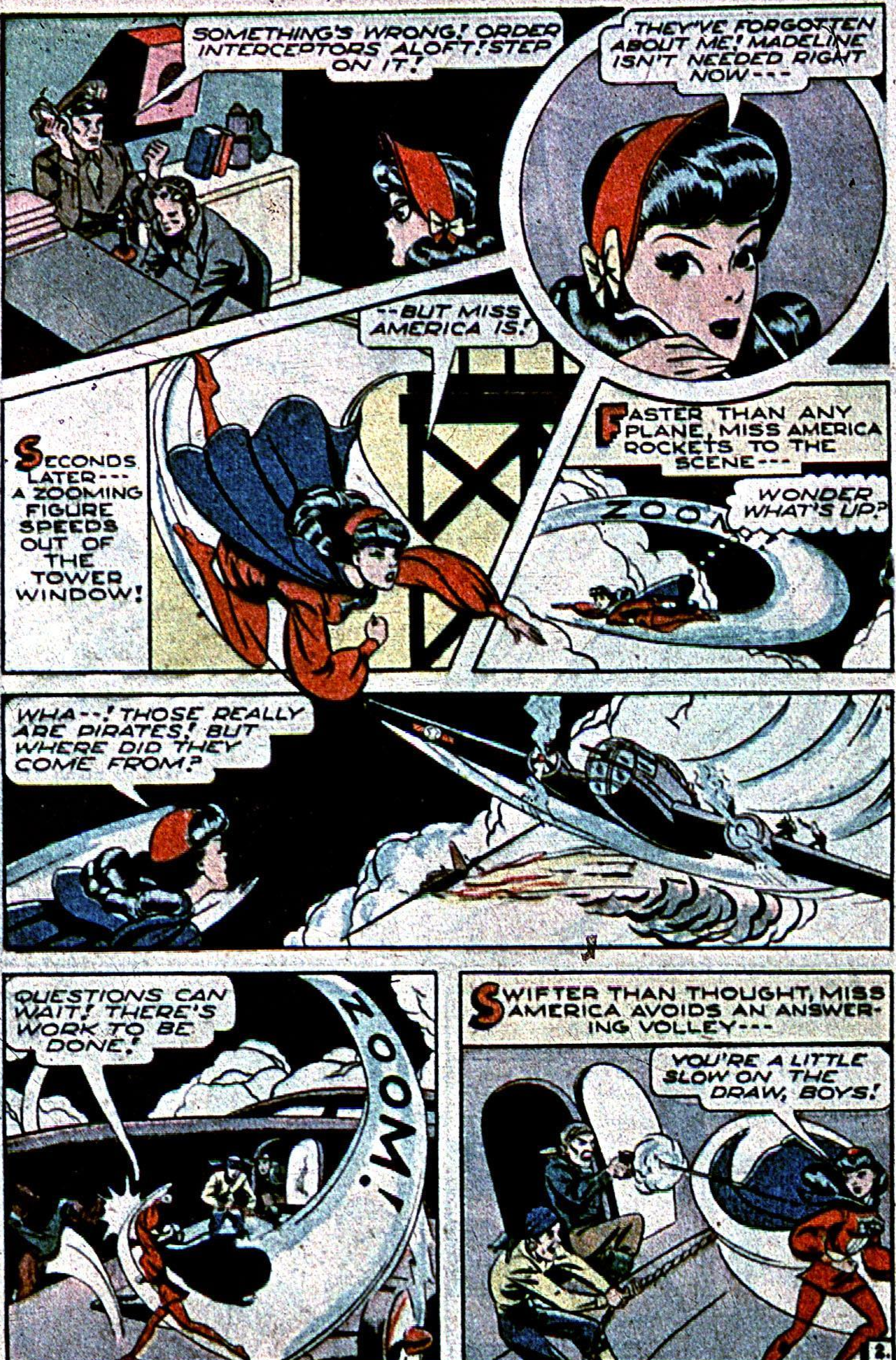

DEAD? NO! JUST THINKING HOW TO GET OUT OF THIS! THAT SHAVING MIRROR--- IF I CAN REACH THE TABLE AND---
A LAST REMAINING STRENGTH - COMBINED WITH GREAT WILL--
THAT DID IT!
AS SHATTERED GLASS CRAMS INTO THE GENERATOR
IT'S GUMMED UP THE MOTOR! THE CURRENT'S SHUT OFF! THAT STOPS MY PARALYSIS! SOMEONE'S COMING---!
CRASH
NOW IF YOU CAN ONLY REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH!
THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN AND--
WE BROUGHT YOU SOME WATER FISHFACE! BRING IT CLOSER MARTY, HE'S ALL PARALYZED, HE CAN'T TOUCH IT, WE'RE GOING TO TORMENT HIM WITH IT BEFORE HE DIES!
BUT AS THE BOWL IS BROUGHT NEAR..
THANKS! JUST WHAT I NEED!
HEY! HE ISN'T PARALYZED!

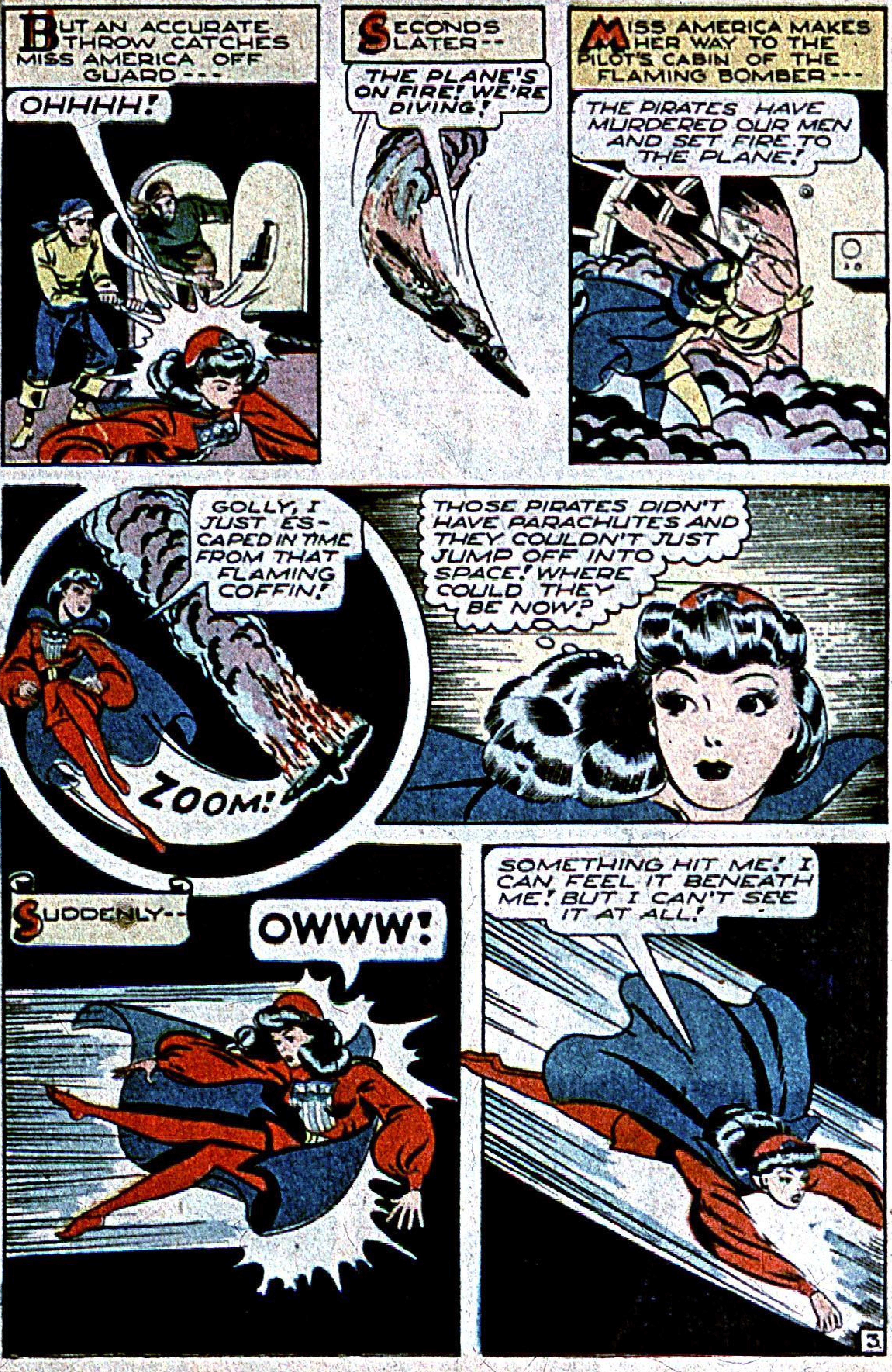

THE WATER'S BROUGHT BACK MY STRENGTH! NOW FOR MY OWN SPECIAL KNOCK-OUT PARALYSIS!
A MINUTE LATER
I COULD KISS YOU FOR FREEING ME FROM THAT ROPE
HUH?--DON'T! LET'S JUST STICK TO BUSINESS SISTER--AND THERE'S PLENTY AHEAD! FIRST--I'VE I'VE GOT TO ROUND UP THE REST OF THIS GANG!
WHILE ON DECK
THINK OF THE JOBS WE CAN PULL AND DUCK BACK HERE!
YEH! WIT' NO SUB-MARINER BUTTIN' IN!
SUB-MARINER--GANGWAY!
ME TOO!
WE MEET AGAIN!
A TWO POINT LANDING!
LET HIM HAVE IT!

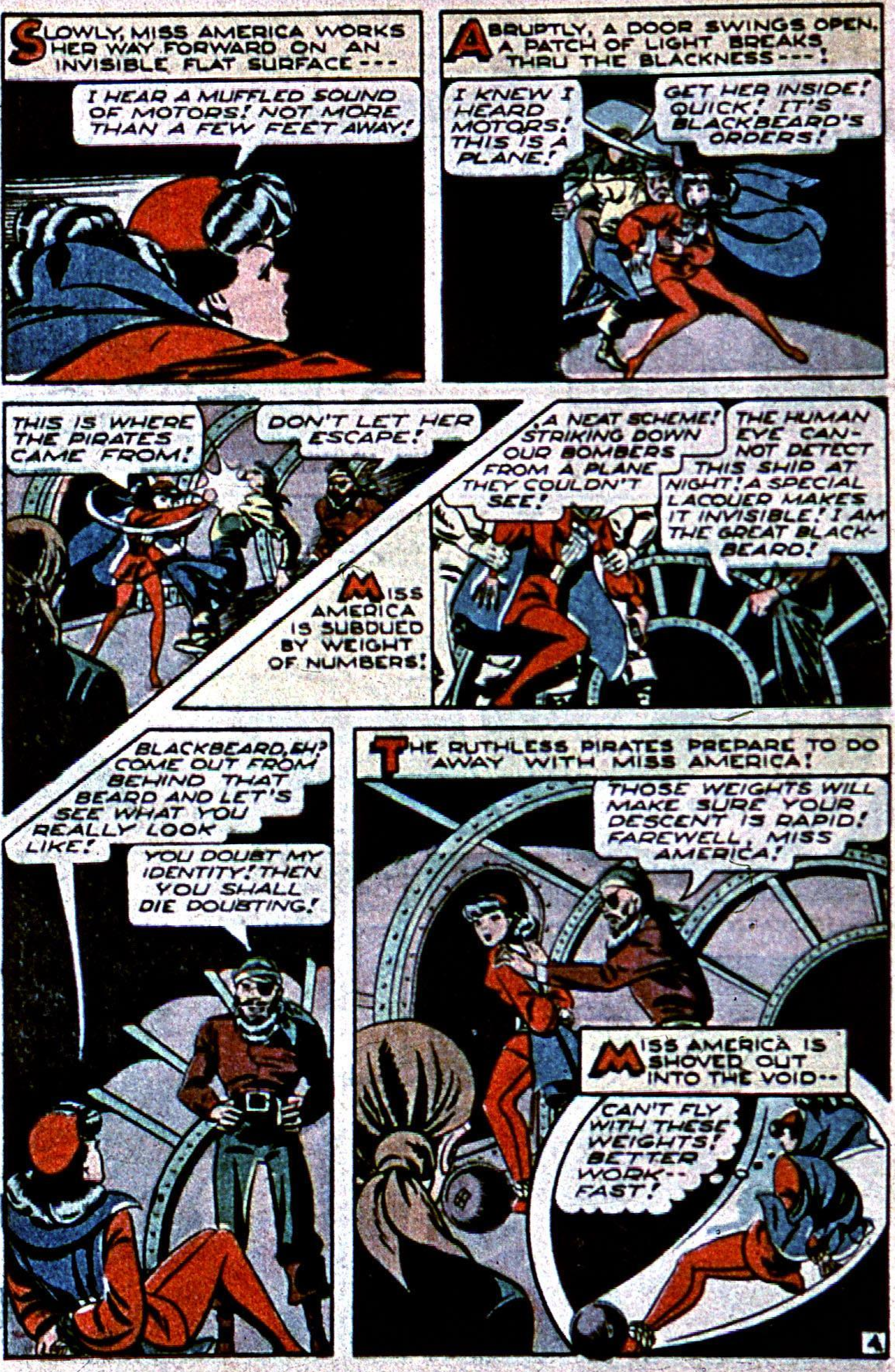

A BARRAGE OF BULLETS RIPS THE AIR--
SO IT'S KILLER MARTIN, FINGER WILSON, AND THE REST OF THE JAIL BREAKERS!
YEH! BUT KNOWIN' DAT WILL DO YA' NO GOOD--NEITHER WILL DUCKIN' BEHIND A TREE!
MIGHTY MUSCLES MAKE A SURPRISE--
YOU MEAN IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD! TRY ON THIS BOUQUET FOR SIZE!
--BUT A NEW MENACE SUDDENLY APPEARS--A NEW BOATLOAD OF MURDERING MINIONS---
WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF SUB-MARINER--- SHOOT HIM! DEAD-EYE AND DON'T MISS!
DON'T WORRY--WHEN I SHOOT--DEY DON'T LIVE!
SUDDENLY
LOOK OUT, SUB-MARINER!
I CAUGHT SIGHT OF WARDEN HAWES---I NEVER THOUGHT--HE--
AND AT BREATH-TAKING PACE--THE SEA PRINCE HEEDS THE WARNING!

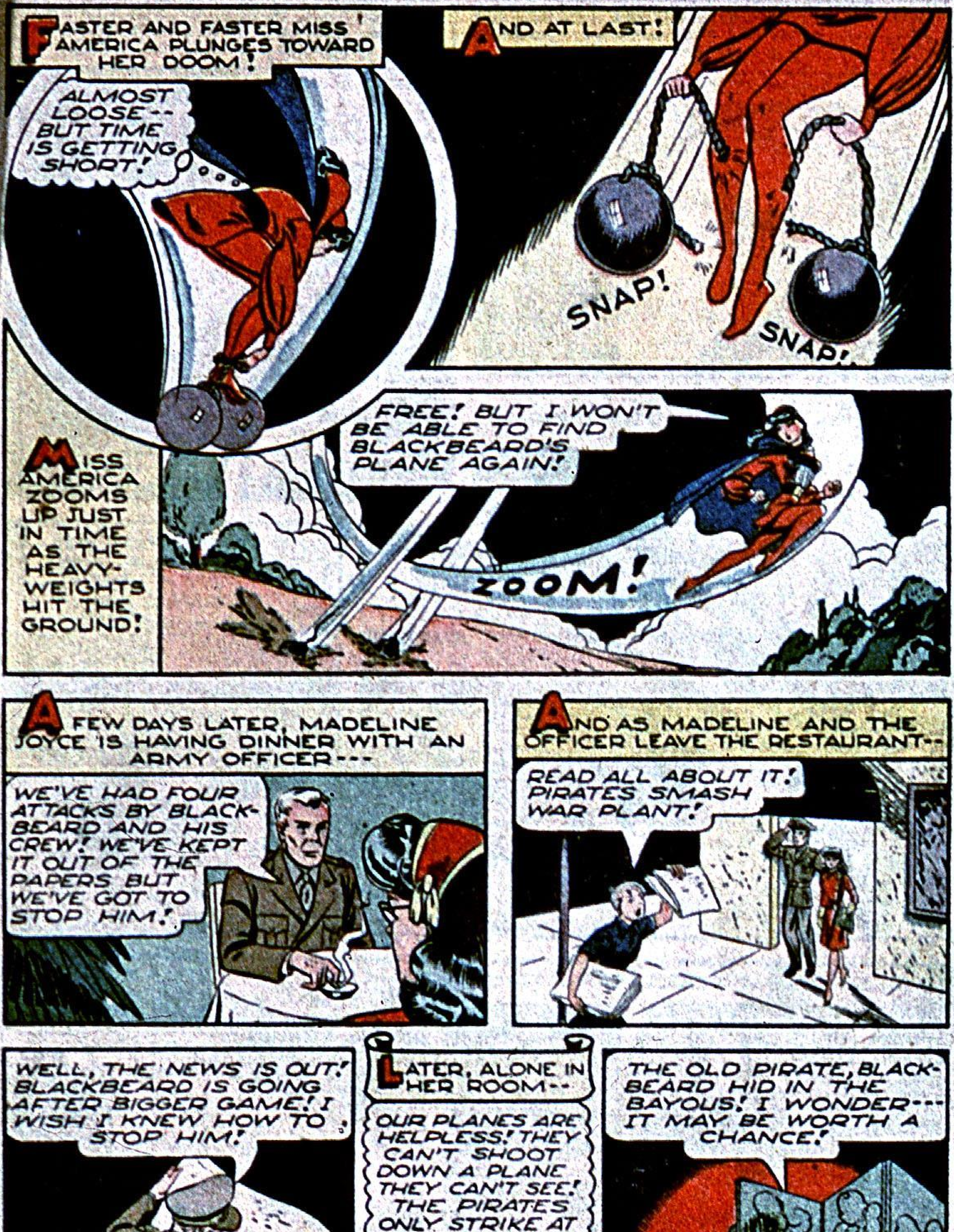

THEY'RE STILL FIRING--- HMM-- THOSE LIFEBUOYS GIVE ME AN IDEA--
SPLAT!
MOMENTS OF SILENCE-SEARCHING FOR NAMOR
THERE HE IS! GET HIM!
MAYBE MY WEAPONS ARE BETTER
WANT MORE? I'LL RIP UP A FEW MORE LIFEBUOYS, I'M GOING TO PUT THEM BACK AGAIN ANYWAY!
HELP!
CRASH
SOON-- A POLICE CUTTER ARRIVES
A GIRL REPORTER RADIOED FOR US!
SWELL--PICK UP THE REST OF THE GANG--I'M BRINGING WARDEN HAWES ABOARD-- ONLY IT'S NOT HAWES-- THIS BIRD WAS WEARING A MASK!
H.P.
Later
GREAT WORK- SUB-MARINER-- WE HAVE THEM ALL AND THEIR CONFESSIONS! THE REAL WARDENS WERE KILLED AND MASKED PHONIES TOOK THEIR PLACES! THEY SLIPPED THE ESCAPING CONVICTS SKELETON KEYS TO THEIR CELLS! HAWES WAS HEAD OF THE WHOLE OPERATION!
HE'S HEAD MAN IN THAT PARADE-- BUT THERE'S NO ESCAPE!
The End

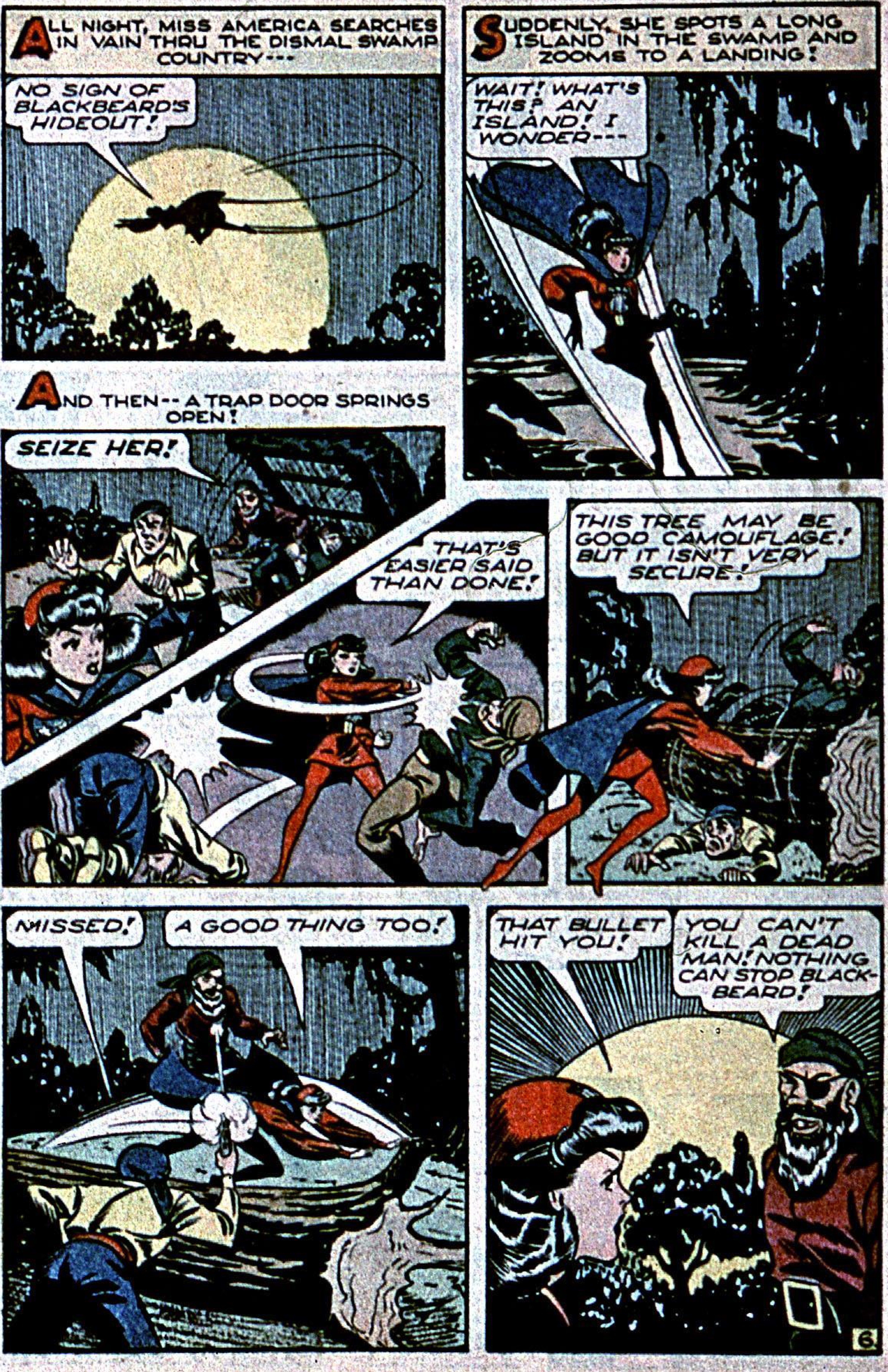

Miss
AMERICA
SWOOPING ON INVISIBLE WINGS, CAME THE HUGE PIRATE PLANE--- AND THE BEST PILOTS OF OUR AIR FORCE FALL BEFORE A FOE THEY CANNOT SEE!! FOLLOW MISS AMERICA AS SHE ZOOMS TO BATTLE THE PIRATE OF THE SKIES IN---
The BLACK FLAG of DOOM!
MADELINE JOYCE VISITS THE CONTROL TOWER OF A FAMOUS AIR FIELD---
A FLIGHT OF BOMBERS WILL RETURN SOON! YOU CAN---
CAPTAIN! WE JUST RECEIVED A DISTRESS SIGNAL! FLIGHT ATTACKED!
AIRFIELD TO BILL'S FOLLY! WHAT'S WRONG? OVER---
BILL'S FOLLY REPORTING! PIRATES ATTACKING US! I-I--- AAAH!
1

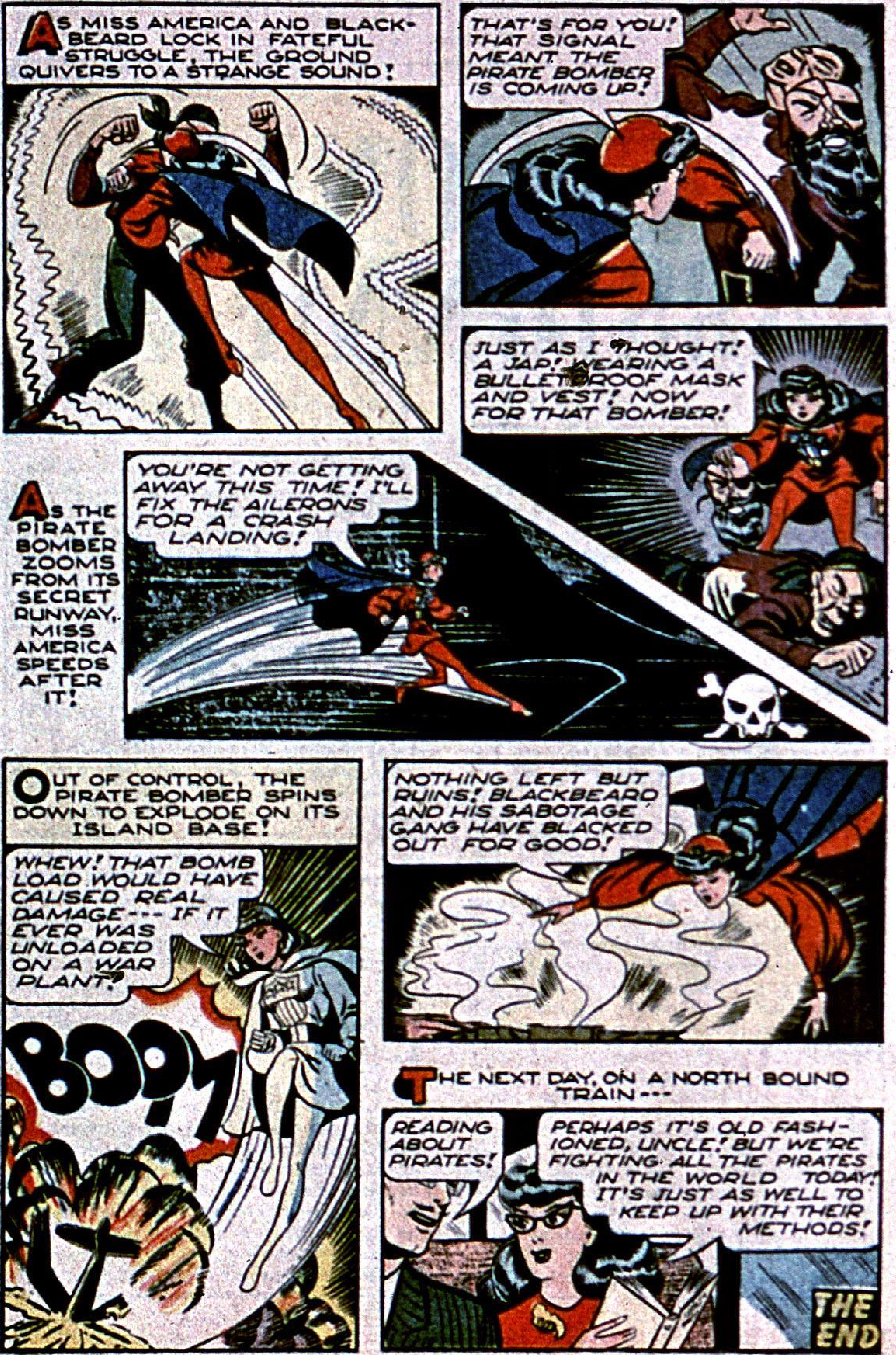

SOMETHING'S WRONG! ORDER INTERCEPTORS ALOFT! STEP ON IT!
THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME! MADELINE ISN'T NEEDED RIGHT NOW---
--BUT MISS AMERICA IS!
SECONDS LATER--- A ZOOMING FIGURE SPEEDS OUT OF THE TOWER WINDOW!
FASTER THAN ANY PLANE, MISS AMERICA ROCKETS TO THE SCENE---
WONDER WHAT'S UP?
ZOOM!
WHA--! THOSE REALLY ARE PIRATES! BUT WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
QUESTIONS CAN WAIT! THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE!
ZOOM!
SWIFTER THAN THOUGHT, MISS AMERICA AVOIDS AN ANSWERING VOLLEY---
YOU'RE A LITTLE SLOW ON THE DRAW, BOYS!
2.


BUT AN ACCURATE THROW CATCHES MISS AMERICA OFF GUARD---
OHHHH!
SECONDS LATER--
THE PLANE'S ON FIRE! WE'RE DIVING!
MISS AMERICA MAKES HER WAY TO THE PILOT'S CABIN OF THE FLAMING BOMBER---
THE PIRATES HAVE MURDERED OUR MEN AND SET FIRE TO THE PLANE!
GOLLY, I JUST ESCAPED IN TIME FROM THAT FLAMING COFFIN!
ZOOM!
THOSE PIRATES DIDN'T HAVE PARACHUTES AND THEY COULDN'T JUST JUMP OFF INTO SPACE! WHERE COULD THEY BE NOW?
SUDDENLY--
OWWW!
SOMETHING HIT ME! I CAN FEEL IT BENEATH ME! BUT I CAN'T SEE IT AT ALL!
3


SLOWLY, MISS AMERICA WORKS HER WAY FORWARD ON AN INVISIBLE FLAT SURFACE---
I HEAR A MUFFLED SOUND OF MOTORS! NOT MORE THAN A FEW FEET AWAY!
ABRUPTLY, A DOOR SWINGS OPEN. A PATCH OF LIGHT BREAKS THRU THE BLACKNESS---!
I KNEW I HEARD MOTORS! THIS IS A PLANE!
GET HER INSIDE! QUICK! IT'S BLACKBEARD'S ORDERS!
THIS IS WHERE THE PIRATES CAME FROM!
DON'T LET HER ESCAPE!
MISS AMERICA IS SUBDUED BY WEIGHT OF NUMBERS!
A NEAT SCHEME! STRIKING DOWN OUR BOMBERS FROM A PLANE THEY COULDN'T SEE!
THE HUMAN EYE CANNOT DETECT THIS SHIP AT NIGHT! A SPECIAL LACQUER MAKES IT INVISIBLE! I AM THE GREAT BLACKBEARD!
BLACKBEARD, EH? COME OUT FROM BEHIND THAT BEARD AND LET'S SEE WHAT YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE!
YOU DOUBT MY IDENTITY! THEN YOU SHALL DIE DOUBTING!
THE RUTHLESS PIRATES PREPARE TO DO AWAY WITH MISS AMERICA!
THOSE WEIGHTS WILL MAKE SURE YOUR DESCENT IS RAPID! FAREWELL, MISS AMERICA!
MISS AMERICA IS SHOVED OUT INTO THE VOID--
CAN'T FLY WITH THESE WEIGHTS! BETTER WORK--FAST!
4


FASTER AND FASTER MISS AMERICA PLUNGES TOWARD HER DOOM!
ALMOST LOOSE-- BUT TIME IS GETTING SHORT!
AND AT LAST!
SNAP!
SNAP!
MISS AMERICA ZOOMS UP JUST IN TIME AS THE HEAVYWEIGHTS HIT THE GROUND!
FREE! BUT I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND BLACKBEARD'S PLANE AGAIN!
ZOOM!
A FEW DAYS LATER, MADELINE JOYCE IS HAVING DINNER WITH AN ARMY OFFICER---
WE'VE HAD FOUR ATTACKS BY BLACKBEARD AND HIS CREW! WE'VE KEPT IT OUT OF THE PAPERS BUT WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
AND AS MADELINE AND THE OFFICER LEAVE THE RESTAURANT--
READ ALL ABOUT IT! PIRATES SMASH WAR PLANT!
WELL, THE NEWS IS OUT! BLACKBEARD IS GOING AFTER BIGGER GAME! I WISH I KNEW HOW TO STOP HIM!
LATER, ALONE IN HER ROOM--
OUR PLANES ARE HELPLESS! THEY CAN'T SHOOT DOWN A PLANE THEY CAN'T SEE! THE PIRATES ONLY STRIKE AT NIGHT!
THE OLD PIRATE, BLACKBEARD HID IN THE BAYOUS! I WONDER--- IT MAY BE WORTH A CHANCE!


ALL NIGHT, MISS AMERICA SEARCHES IN VAIN THRU THE DISMAL SWAMP COUNTRY---
NO SIGN OF BLACKBEARD'S HIDEOUT!
SUDDENLY, SHE SPOTS A LONG ISLAND IN THE SWAMP AND ZOOMS TO A LANDING!
WAIT! WHAT'S THIS? AN ISLAND! I WONDER---
AND THEN-- A TRAP DOOR SPRINGS OPEN!
SEIZE HER!
THAT'S EASIER SAID THAN DONE!
THIS TREE MAY BE GOOD CAMOUFLAGE! BUT IT ISN'T VERY SECURE!
MISSED!
A GOOD THING TOO!
THAT BULLET HIT YOU!
YOU CAN'T KILL A DEAD MAN! NOTHING CAN STOP BLACKBEARD!
6


AS MISS AMERICA AND BLACKBEARD LOCK IN FATEFUL STRUGGLE, THE GROUND QUIVERS TO A STRANGE SOUND!
THAT'S FOR YOU! THAT SIGNAL MEANT THE PIRATE BOMBER IS COMING UP!
JUST AS I THOUGHT! A JAP! WEARING A BULLETPROOF MASK AND VEST! NOW FOR THAT BOMBER!
AS THE PIRATE BOMBER ZOOMS FROM ITS SECRET RUNWAY, MISS AMERICA SPEEDS AFTER IT!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY THIS TIME! I'LL FIX THE AILERONS FOR A CRASH LANDING!
OUT OF CONTROL, THE PIRATE BOMBER SPINS DOWN TO EXPLODE ON ITS ISLAND BASE!
WHEW! THAT BOMB LOAD WOULD HAVE CAUSED REAL DAMAGE--- IF IT EVER WAS UNLOADED ON A WAR PLANT!
BOOM
NOTHING LEFT BUT RUINS! BLACKBEARD AND HIS SABOTAGE GANG HAVE BLACKED OUT FOR GOOD!
THE NEXT DAY, ON A NORTH BOUND TRAIN---
READING ABOUT PIRATES!
PERHAPS IT'S OLD FASHIONED, UNCLE! BUT WE'RE FIGHTING ALL THE PIRATES IN THE WORLD TODAY! IT'S JUST AS WELL TO KEEP UP WITH THEIR METHODS!
THE END

PERSONAL ASSIGNMENT

SEATED at the back of the boat, Red Casey watched the ragged outline of the city fade into the evening dusk. It was a grand sight to Red's eyes, but nevertheless he felt within him a deep-seated uneasiness, which had been stirring sluggishly for weeks now. The C. H. D. in his pocket did little to alleviate the feeling, to make lighter the stagnant burden resting upon his shoulders. After having seen the worst Salerno could dish out, riding the ferry was pretty dull.

"They don't make any bones about it, either," Red told himself. "When you're in, you're in. When you're out . . . what comes next?"

That, more than any accumulation of other things, was now the big question in Red's life. Plenty had happened in the last two years. The future stretched dull and emotionless and . . . actionless before him. What came next could be at best only prosaic and uninteresting. After two years of battling, Red had been returned to his former status as a member of John Q. Public's great tribe.

It didn't feel good. Red closed his eyes, let his head tip forward upon his broad chest. The wind was restful against his forehead, and for a moment he tried desperately to calm the turmoil within him. Sometimes he felt that he'd go bats if he had to live like this forever. If the main bout were ended over there, it wouldn't be so bad. . . .

* * * * *

RED opened his eyes to discover that he was completely alone. All the other passengers had gone up forward, as the boat approached her berth. For a moment his grey eyes swept the harbor, noting the close-packed herd of ships preparing to leave. Probably tonight. A bright light winked a message from a sky-scraper far back across the bay.

The motion of a figure caught Red's attention and idly he turned his glance, realizing that he wasn't alone after all. Some guy was standing there—

Suddenly Red's body went tense, as he saw the man slip a camera from his pocket. Swiftly he adjusted the lens, and started snapping the harbor spread out before him. Then he turned as the engines of the boat were reversed, and idled forward.

Casey ran long fingers through flaming hair. His body was tense and hard now, as he circled the boat upon the other side, keeping a wary eye upon the stranger across the ship's width. Snapshots of the harbor and its installations were out. This fellow had by his very actions shown he was well aware of this fact. Since he'd deliberately taken them, knowing this.

Red mingled with the crowd, deftly working his slim body through its tide till he was close to the stranger, a medium-built man with a round, pudgy face. He wore an ordinary looking blue suit; might have been any of the hundreds of business men returning home from a day in a city office. But he wasn't, and carefully Red Casey attached himself to the man's trail, as he parted from the eddying crowd and started away through the thickening dusk.

* * * * *

LIFE flitted like shadows about the dusk-ridden brewery. The smell of salt water was strong in Casey's nostrils, as he worked his way forward through the lowering dark. He'd seen the little pudgy gent go into the side of the old building, which had all the appearances of desertion and loneliness. The door was somewhere up the narrow lane. Only for a moment had Red seen light sift out into the darkness as the door opened, outlining the pudgy form of his suspect. Then it was black again.

Carefully Red felt his way forward, coming at last to a bleak and grimy window, beyond which was a lighted room. In there the pudgy little guy was slipping off coat and hat, hanging them carefully up behind a door. He fished the camera out of a side pocket of his coat. . . .

"Goin' somewhere, bub?" a gruff voice demanded. "If y'are, you're in the wrong department. A kinda bad one to get into—"

Casey acted involuntarily. He'd been in tight scrapes before and always had managed to get out of them again, usually through swift, unpremeditated action. Now he used the same old tactics, so smoothly familiar that his muscles went to work before he stopped to give the situation thought.

His body whirled, his fist lashed out like the stroke of a flame-thrower. He felt his knuckles crush against a stubbled jaw. The figure before him wilted, struck the ground heavily and lay still.

Briefly Red stood in the darkness listening. There had been little sound save the heavy thud of the falling body. If the pudgy gink inside had heard it, felt the vibration—

• • • • •

SWIFTLY Red Casey felt upon the ground till his fingers closed upon the cool barrel of a revolver. He flipped the catch, peered close to inspect the chambers. All loaded. He ejected the bullets, noting they seemed the real thing, slid them back into the chambers again and snapped the cylinder shut. Maybe it was a good thing this had happened. He hadn't stopped to think about being unarmed till now, hadn't considered the necessity of needing anything but his arms and fists and legs.

The cold steel sent a ripple through Casey's arm. He straightened and slid forward, gripped the knob of the door and slowly thrust it open. It was dark inside. As he stood just around the corner waiting, a sound came to him.

The threatening sliding snap of an automatic being loaded.

The pudgy man in there had heard the thud of the falling body, was armed and ready to do business!

It was dark outside. Casey peered up at the star-sprinkled sky, realized there was enough natural light to silhouette him if he tried to sneak through. That was out. But he had to go in there.

Without hesitation, Red Casey backed away, then hurled himself forward. As he reached the door he ducked head and shoulders, went down in a swift, complete roll that carried him through the door and into the darkness. He hurtled to his feet, leaped to the side—

Across the room fire darted out and the smash of a shot sounded sharply!

The gun in Casey's hand barked. Swiftly he darted to the side, stood frozen, waiting. His ears were ringing so he couldn't hear. Yet he thought he'd felt the vibration of a body falling.

He dipped a flashlight from his pocket, swung it back, then forward, flicking the button on as he pitched it across the room. It sailed through the air, fell toward the floor, struck with a tiny tinkle. . .

But there had been light long enough for Red Casey to see the pudgy man sprawled on the floor.

In the light Casey stared down. The man wasn't dead, for as Casey knelt and swiftly bound him, the pudgy guy opened his eyes.

"You—shot—me," the man strangled. "You—why, you—!"

"Easy," Casey cautioned. "You're in a bad spot. Those pictures—"

"They prove nothing. Nothing!"

"They're of the harbor. Information for the enemy, part of plans to sabotage the war effort. The lives of millions of men overseas! And that rat you had outside . . ."

• • • • •

CASEY straightened, picked up the camera from a table, then stepped across the room and peered through a door. The smell of chemicals came to him as he stood there, staring into the room beyond. It was a small dark room. A deep red bulb burned at the far side. . . .

Casey stepped forward. On a table in the center were a bunch of negatives and a finished picture. Casey picked it up. It was a country home somewhere, situated at the two corners of a road, beside which was a sign giving the mileage to two towns. Slowly Casey put it in his pocket, walked back into the other room.

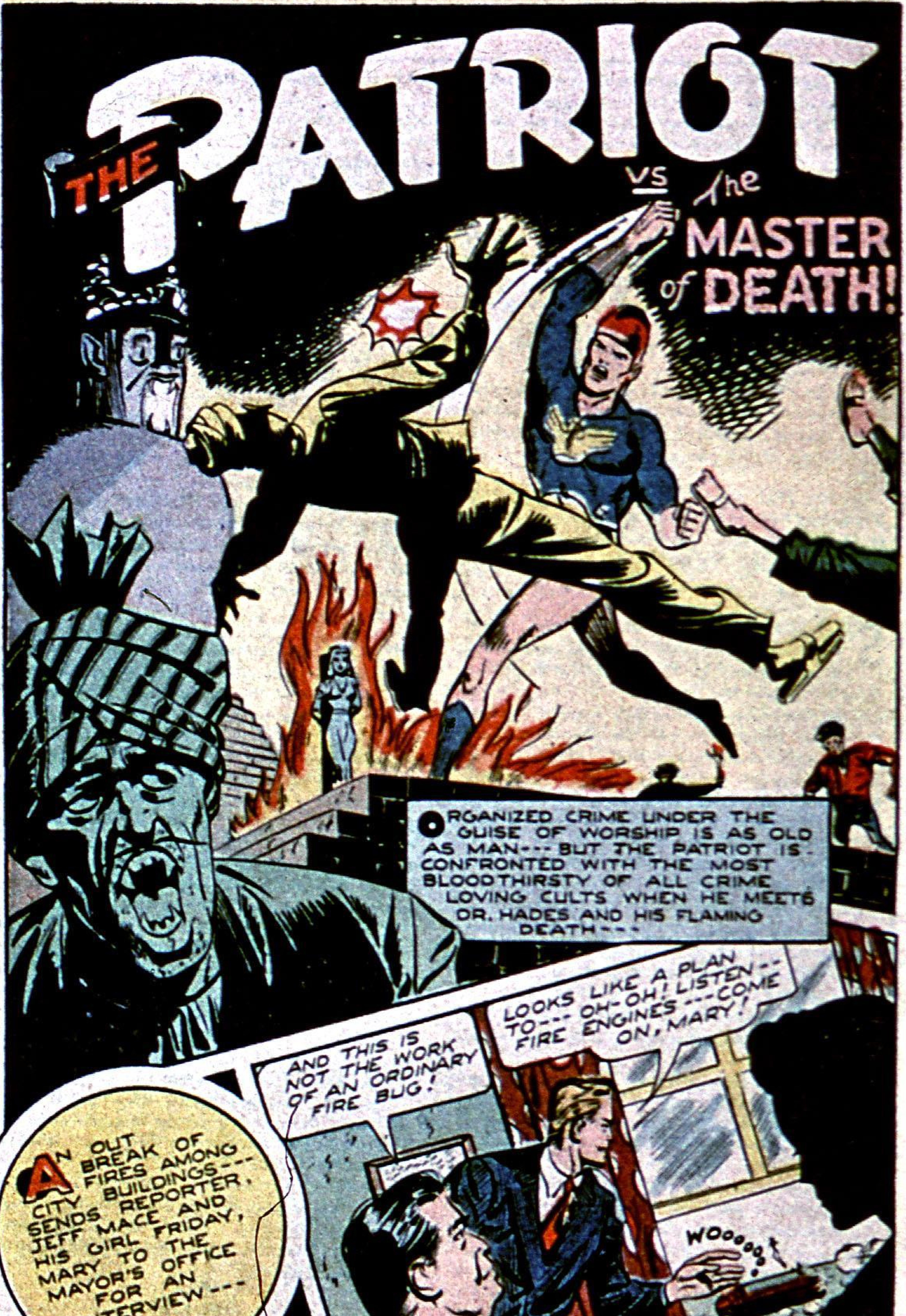
"The cops will be around to talk to you," he told the pudgy man. "They'll be interested in those pictures you took." Red hesitated a moment, grinned down. "Me . . . I got a date, so I'm not going to hang around!"

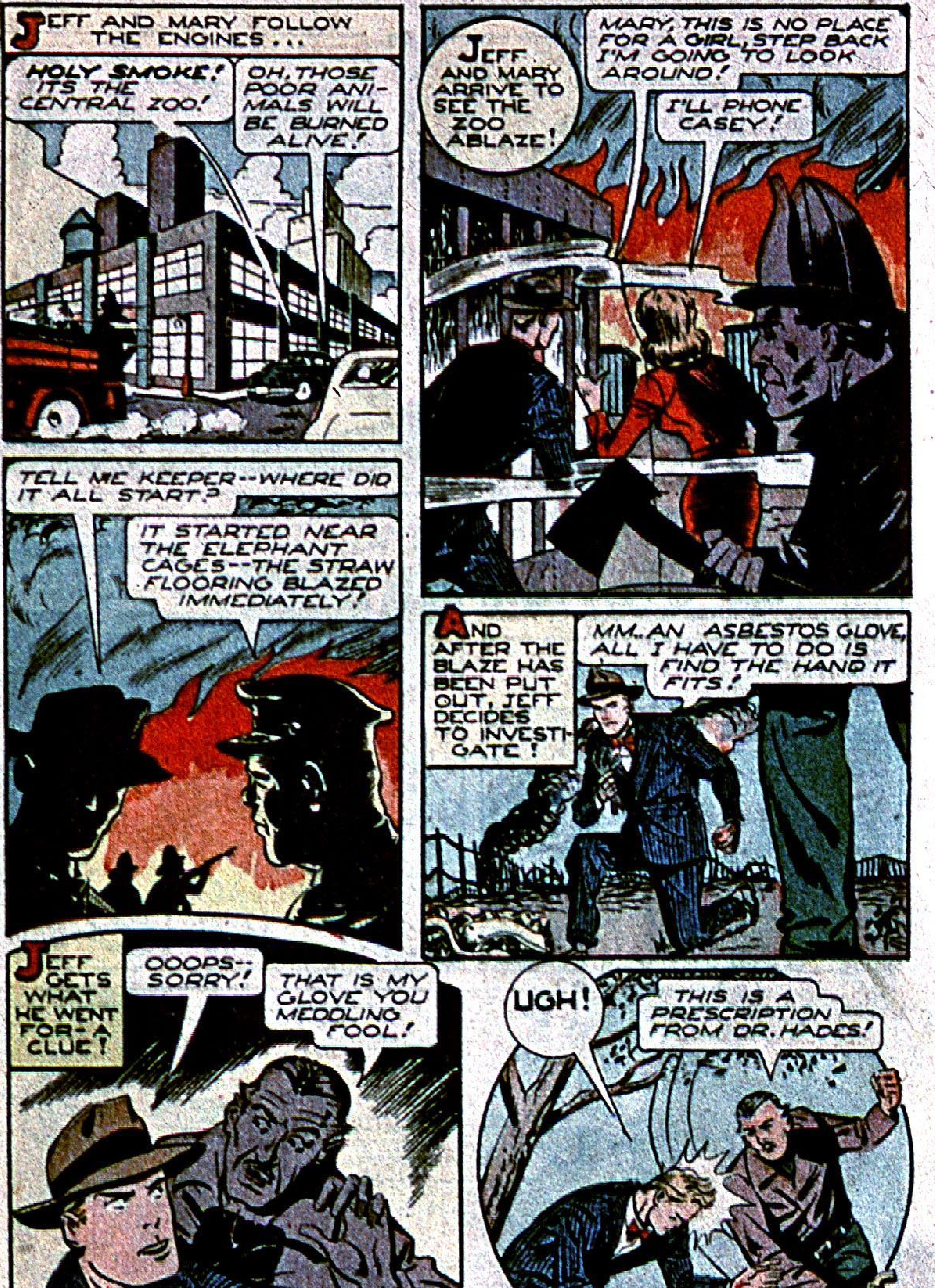
"You can't do anything," the pudgy man snarled. "I'm . . . no one. You'll never catch my leaders. They are safe!"

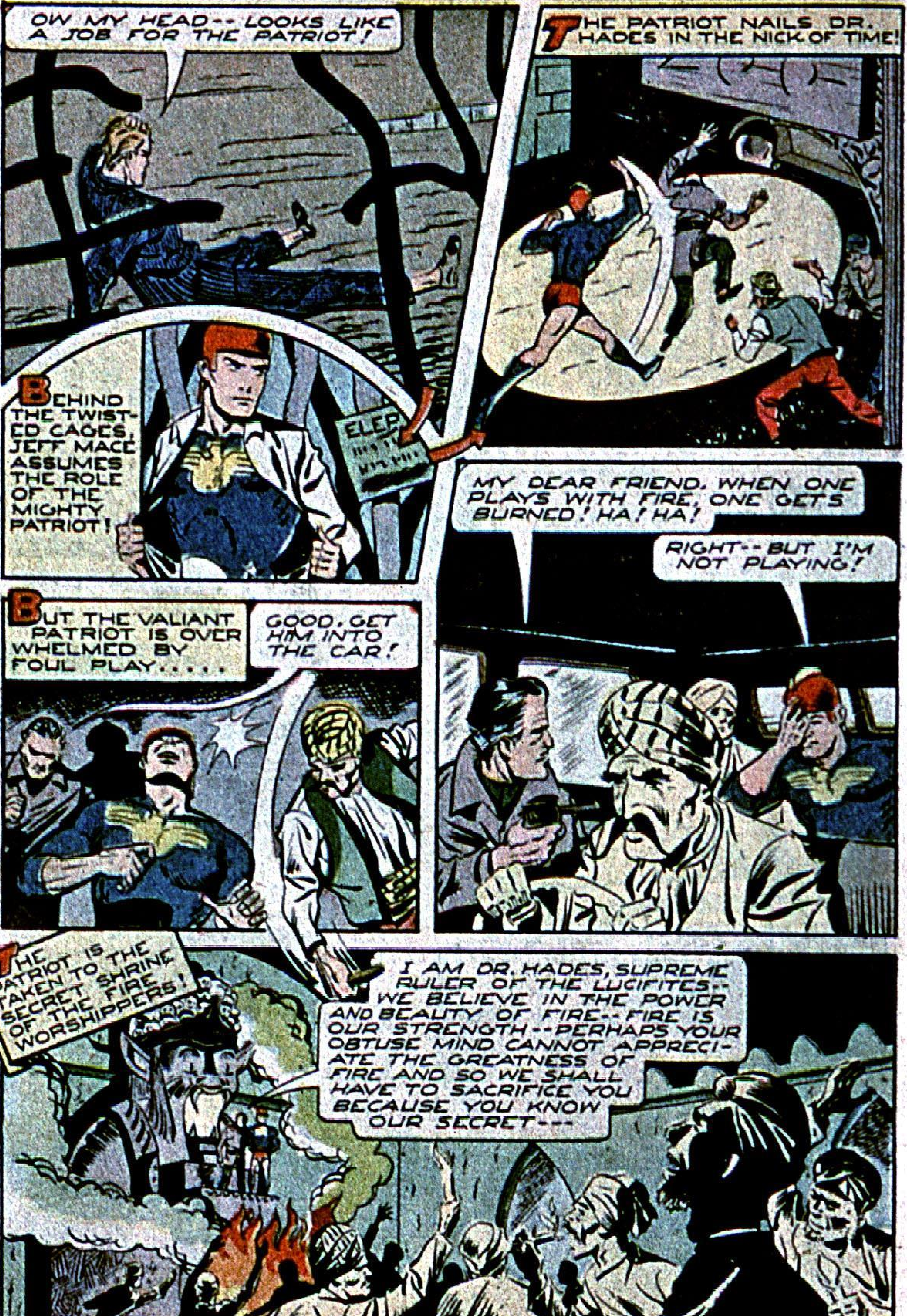
"Maybe," Red admitted. "Don't let it worry you, bub. When the cops get through with you, you're going to have a nice long rest. Without any worries at all!"

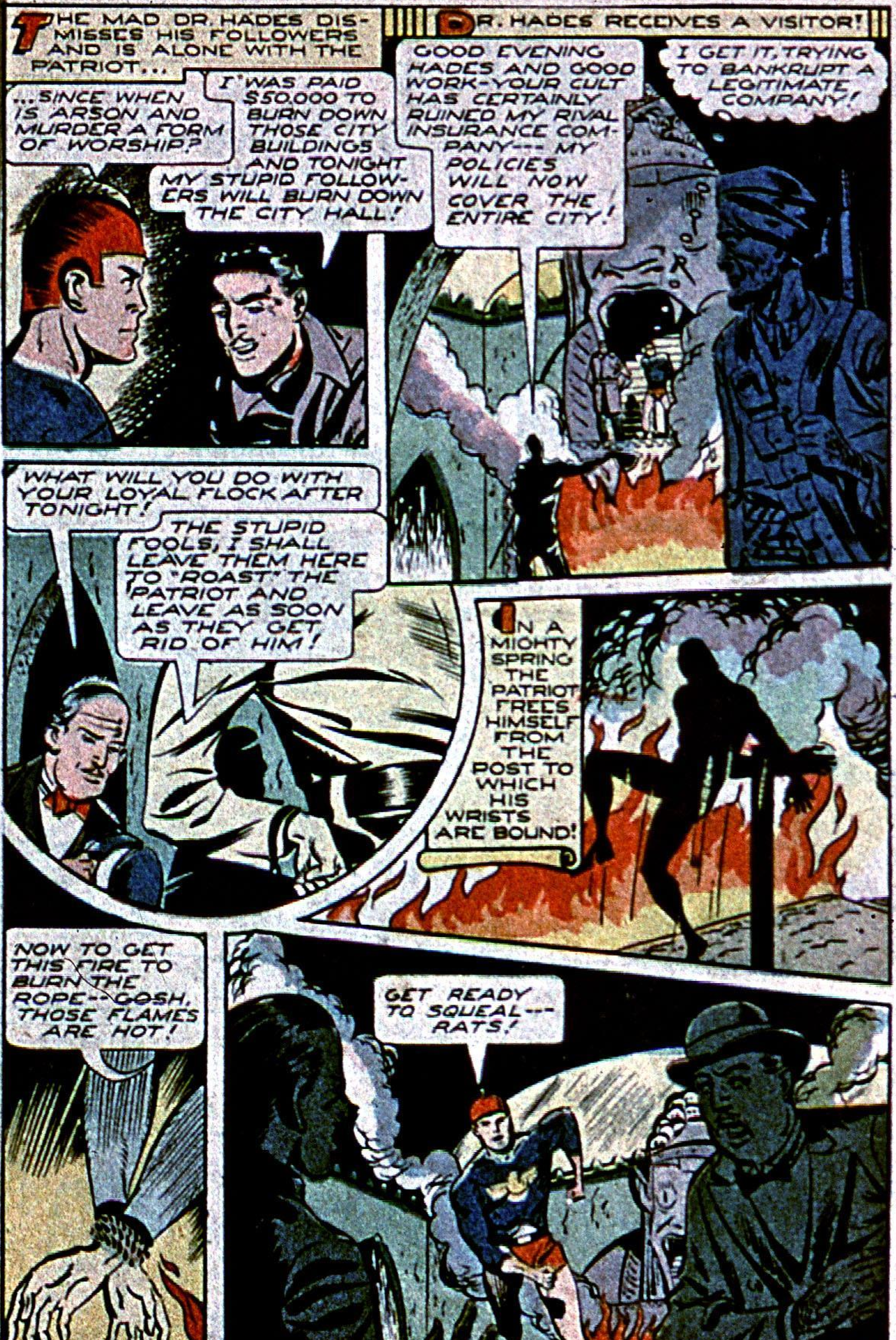
Heading away into the dark once more, Red Casey drew a deep breath. Funny that he should feel better already. The future looked much brighter. This self-appointment might prove interesting, after all.

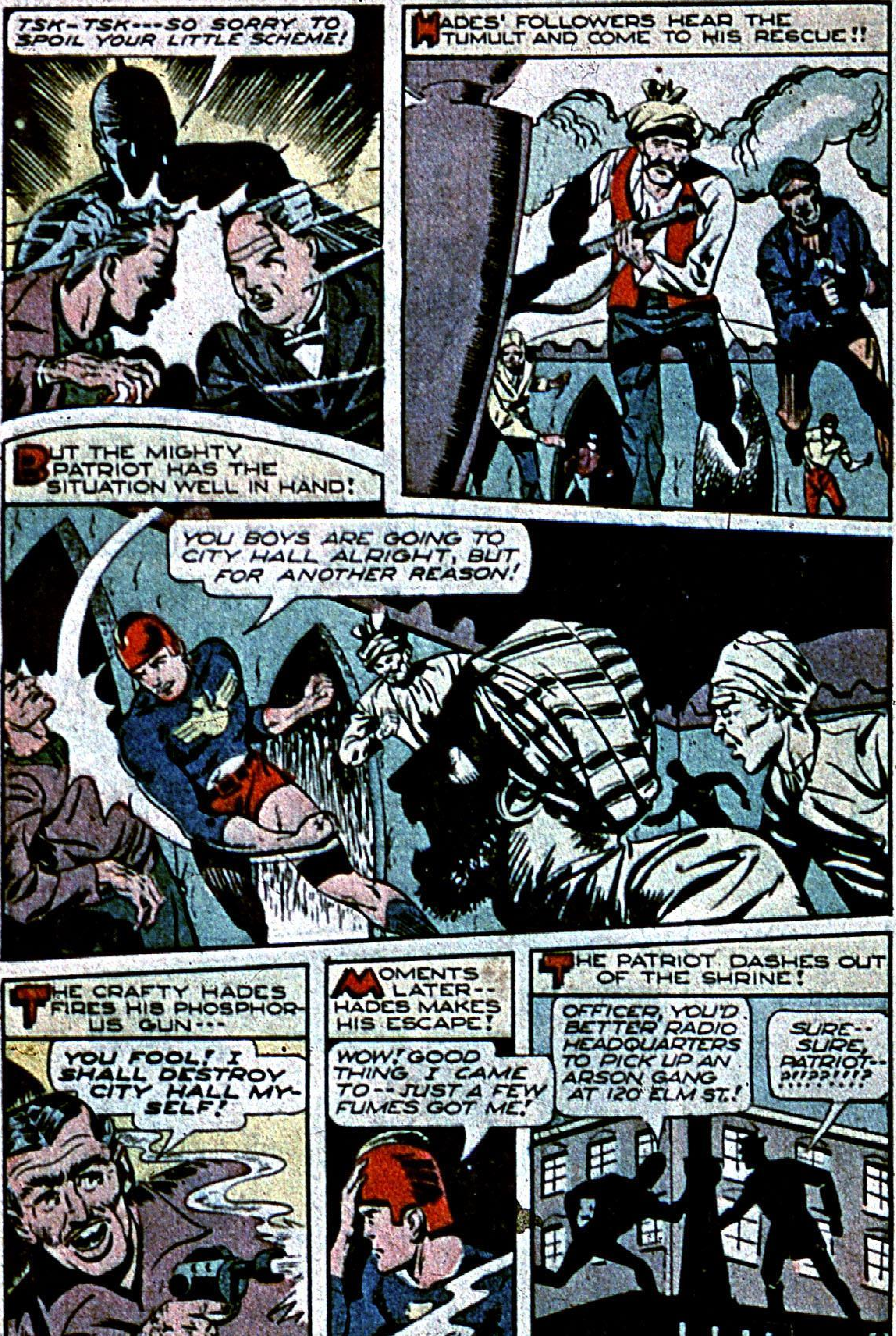
THE END

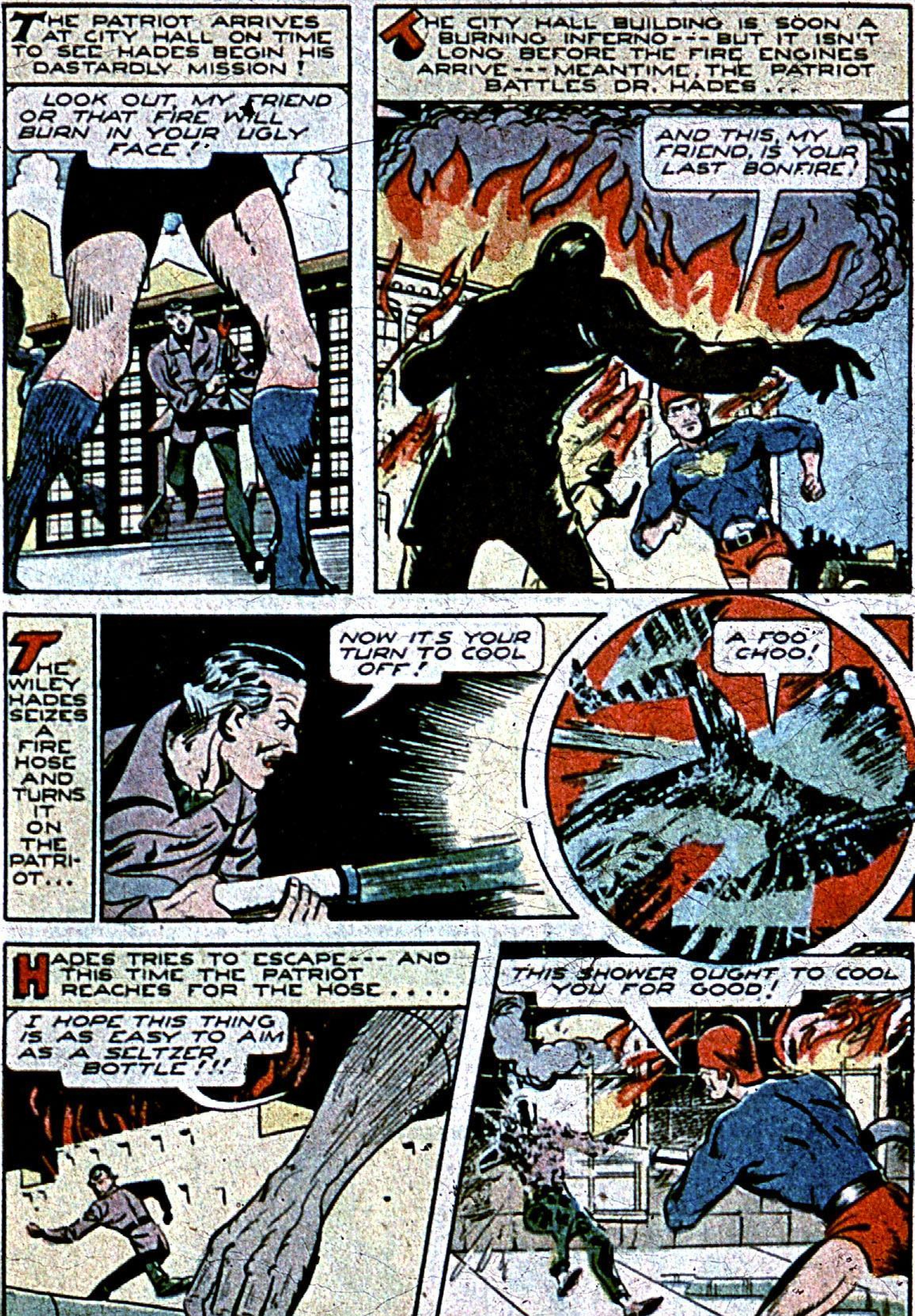

THE PATRIOT
VS the MASTER of DEATH!
ORGANIZED CRIME UNDER THE GUISE OF WORSHIP IS AS OLD AS MAN--- BUT THE PATRIOT IS CONFRONTED WITH THE MOST BLOODTHIRSTY OF ALL CRIME LOVING CULTS WHEN HE MEETS DR. HADES AND HIS FLAMING DEATH---
AN OUT BREAK OF FIRES AMONG CITY BUILDINGS--- SENDS REPORTER, JEFF MACE AND HIS GIRL FRIDAY, MARY TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE FOR AN INTERVIEW---
AND THIS IS NOT THE WORK OF AN ORDINARY FIRE BUG!
LOOKS LIKE A PLAN TO--- OH-OH! LISTEN-- FIRE ENGINES ---COME ON, MARY!
WOOOOOO!

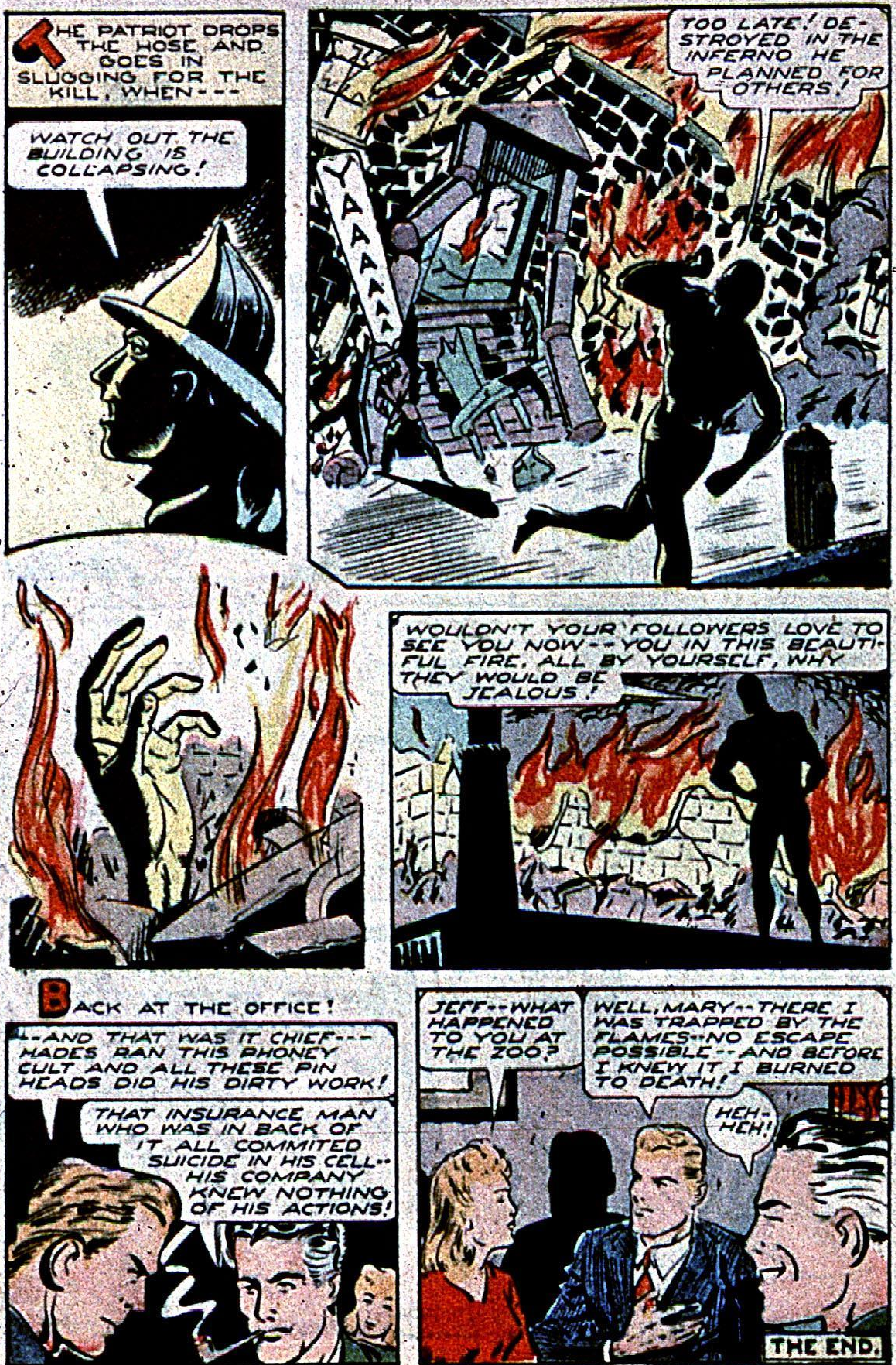

JEFF AND MARY FOLLOW THE ENGINES...
HOLY SMOKE! ITS THE CENTRAL ZOO!
OH, THOSE POOR ANIMALS WILL BE BURNED ALIVE!
JEFF AND MARY ARRIVE TO SEE THE ZOO ABLAZE!
MARY, THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A GIRL, STEP BACK I'M GOING TO LOOK AROUND!
I'LL PHONE CASEY!
TELL ME KEEPER--WHERE DID IT ALL START?
IT STARTED NEAR THE ELEPHANT CAGES--THE STRAW FLOORING BLAZED IMMEDIATELY!
AND AFTER THE BLAZE HAS BEEN PUT OUT, JEFF DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE!
MM..AN ASBESTOS GLOVE, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS FIND THE HAND IT FITS!
JEFF GETS WHAT HE WENT FOR-A CLUE!
OOOPS--SORRY!
THAT IS MY GLOVE YOU MEDDLING FOOL!
UGH!
THIS IS A PRESCRIPTION FROM DR. HADES!

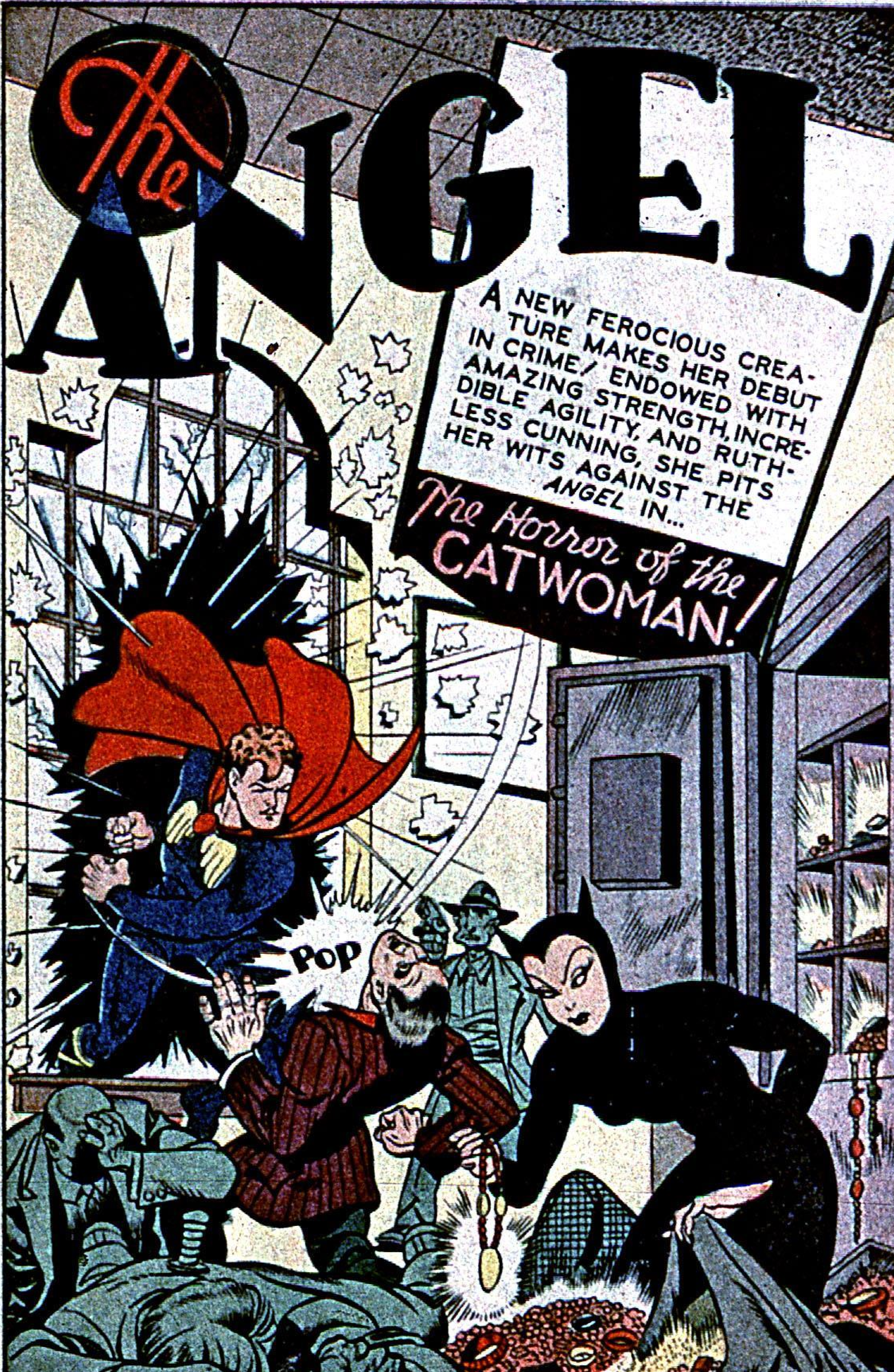

OW MY HEAD-- LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR THE PATRIOT!
THE PATRIOT NAILS DR. HADES IN THE NICK OF TIME!
BEHIND THE TWISTED CAGES, JEFF MACE ASSUMES THE ROLE OF THE MIGHTY PATRIOT!
ELEP
MY DEAR FRIEND, WHEN ONE PLAYS WITH FIRE, ONE GETS BURNED! HA! HA!
RIGHT-- BUT I'M NOT PLAYING!
BUT THE VALIANT PATRIOT IS OVERWHELMED BY FOUL PLAY.....
GOOD, GET HIM INTO THE CAR!
THE PATRIOT IS TAKEN TO THE SECRET SHRINE OF THE FIRE WORSHIPPERS!
I AM DR. HADES, SUPREME RULER OF THE LUCIFITES-- WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER AND BEAUTY OF FIRE-- FIRE IS OUR STRENGTH --PERHAPS YOUR OBTUSE MIND CANNOT APPRECIATE THE GREATNESS OF FIRE AND SO WE SHALL HAVE TO SACRIFICE YOU BECAUSE YOU KNOW OUR SECRET---

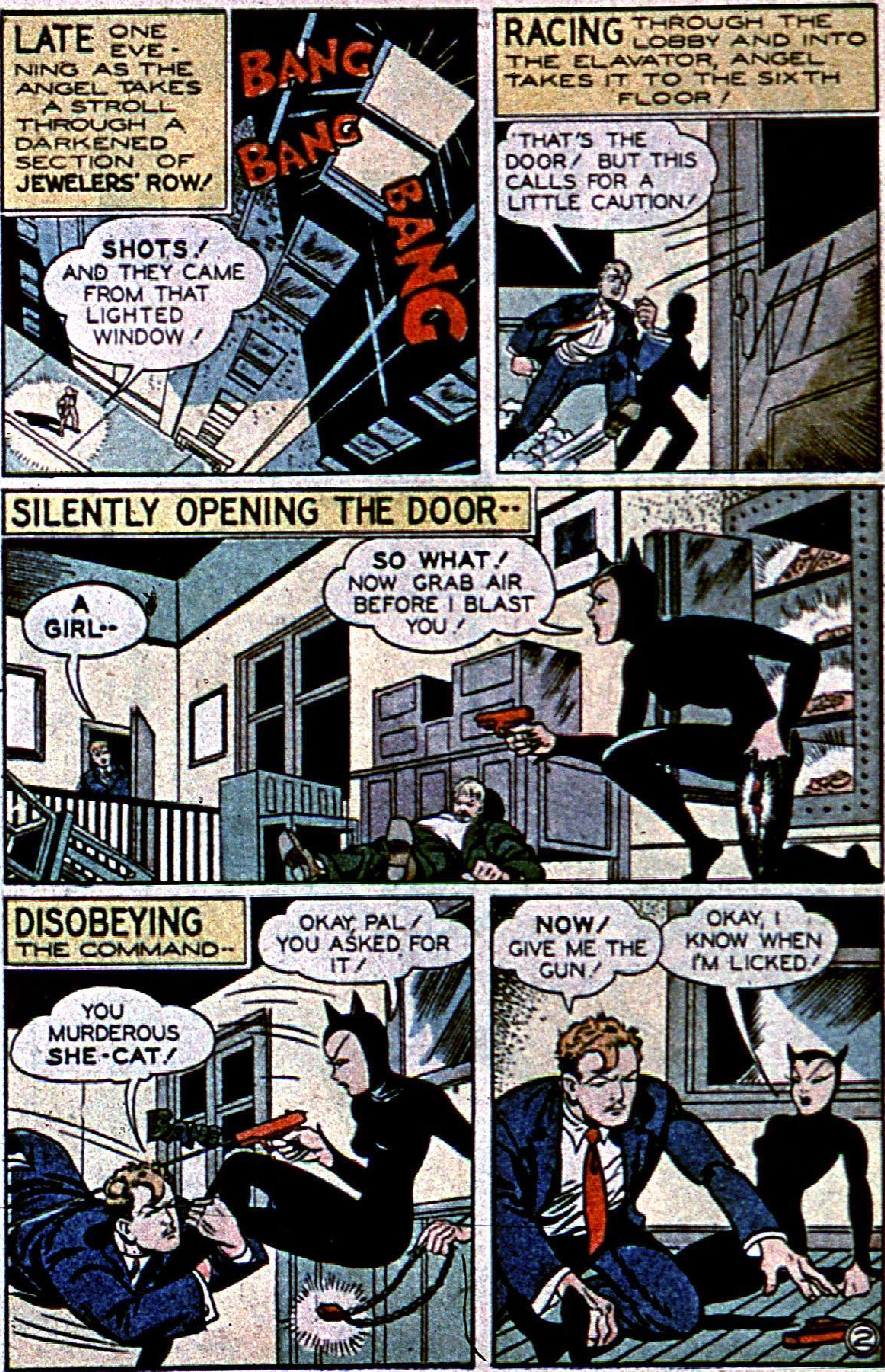

THE MAD DR. HADES DISMISSES HIS FOLLOWERS AND IS ALONE WITH THE PATRIOT...
...SINCE WHEN IS ARSON AND MURDER A FORM OF WORSHIP?
I'WAS PAID $50,000 TO BURN DOWN THOSE CITY BUILDINGS AND TONIGHT MY STUPID FOLLOWERS WILL BURN DOWN THE CITY HALL!
DR. HADES RECEIVES A VISITOR!
GOOD EVENING HADES AND GOOD WORK-YOUR CULT HAS CERTAINLY RUINED MY RIVAL INSURANCE COMPANY--- MY POLICIES WILL NOW COVER THE ENTIRE CITY!
I GET IT, TRYING TO BANKRUPT A LEGITIMATE COMPANY!
WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH YOUR LOYAL FLOCK AFTER TONIGHT!
THE STUPID FOOLS, I SHALL LEAVE THEM HERE TO "ROAST" THE PATRIOT AND LEAVE AS SOON AS THEY GET RID OF HIM!
IN A MIGHTY SPRING THE PATRIOT FREES HIMSELF FROM THE POST TO WHICH HIS WRISTS ARE BOUND!
NOW TO GET THIS FIRE TO BURN THE ROPE--GOSH, THOSE FLAMES ARE HOT!
GET READY TO SQUEAL--- RATS!

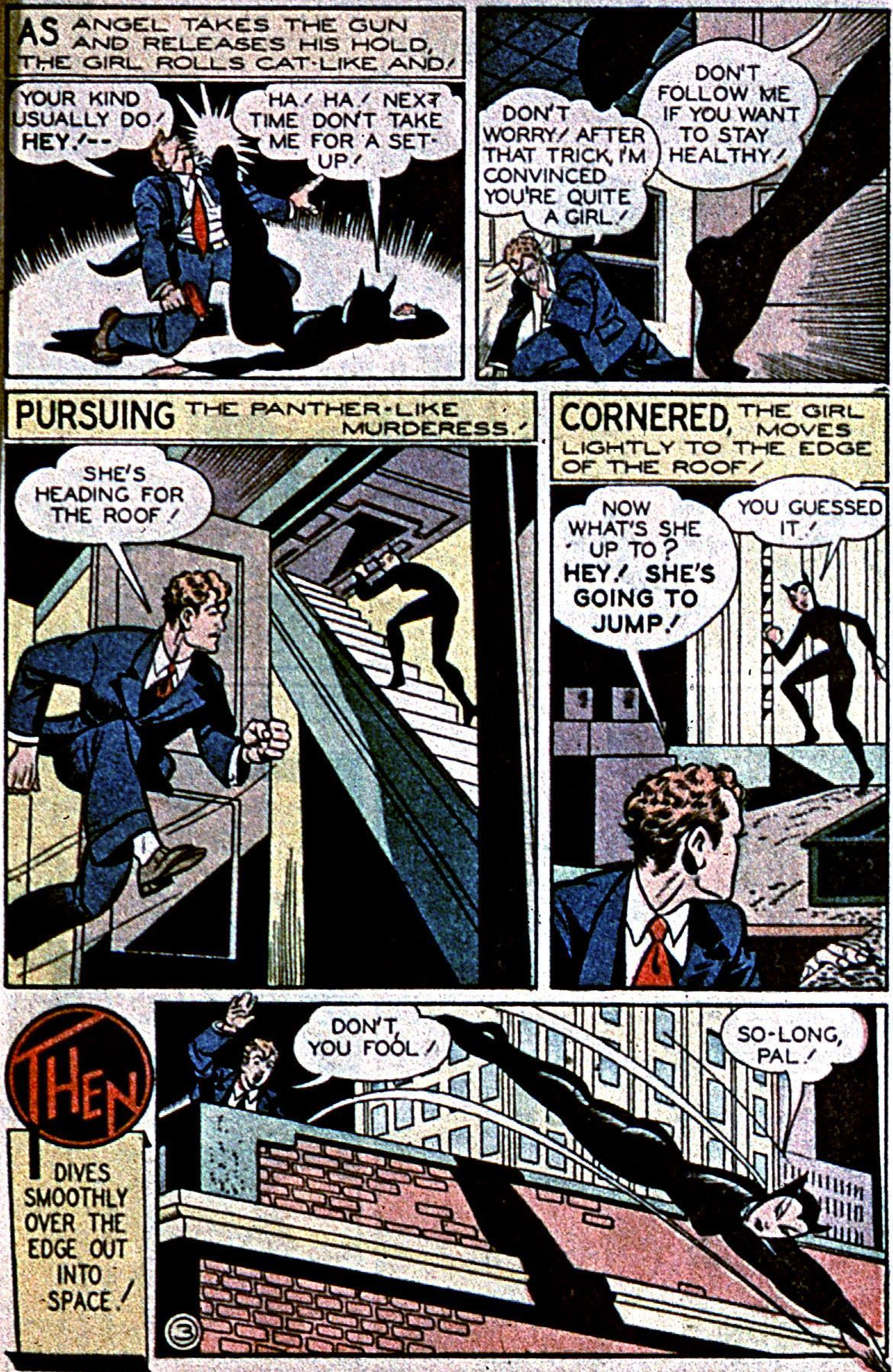

TSK-TSK---SO SORRY TO SPOIL YOUR LITTLE SCHEME!
BUT THE MIGHTY PATRIOT HAS THE SITUATION WELL IN HAND!
HADES' FOLLOWERS HEAR THE TUMULT AND COME TO HIS RESCUE!!
YOU BOYS ARE GOING TO CITY HALL ALRIGHT, BUT FOR ANOTHER REASON!
THE CRAFTY HADES FIRES HIS PHOSPHORUS GUN---
YOU FOOL! I SHALL DESTROY CITY HALL MYSELF!
MOMENTS LATER-- HADES MAKES HIS ESCAPE!
WOW! GOOD THING I CAME TO--JUST A FEW FUMES GOT ME!
THE PATRIOT DASHES OUT OF THE SHRINE!
OFFICER, YOU'D BETTER RADIO HEADQUARTERS TO PICK UP AN ARSON GANG AT 120 ELM ST.!
SURE-- SURE, PATRIOT--?!!??!!!?

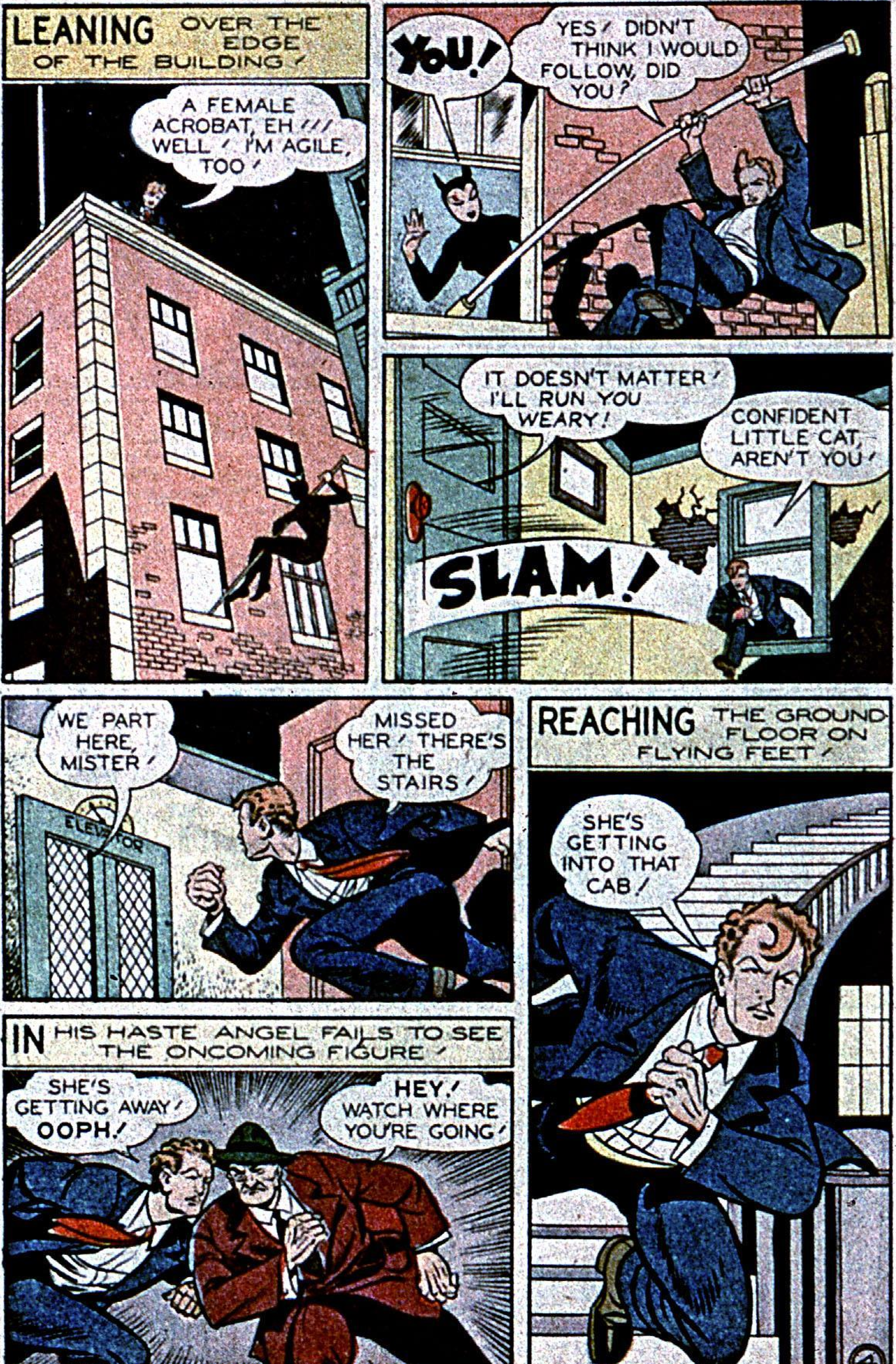

THE PATRIOT ARRIVES AT CITY HALL ON TIME TO SEE HADES BEGIN HIS DASTARDLY MISSION!
LOOK OUT, MY FRIEND OR THAT FIRE WILL BURN IN YOUR UGLY FACE!
THE CITY HALL BUILDING IS SOON A BURNING INFERNO--- BUT IT ISN'T LONG BEFORE THE FIRE ENGINES ARRIVE--- MEANTIME, THE PATRIOT BATTLES DR. HADES...
AND THIS, MY FRIEND, IS YOUR LAST BONFIRE!
THE WILEY HADES SEIZES A FIRE HOSE AND TURNS IT ON THE PATRIOT...
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO COOL OFF!
A FOO CHOO!
HADES TRIES TO ESCAPE--- AND THIS TIME THE PATRIOT REACHES FOR THE HOSE....
I HOPE THIS THING IS AS EASY TO AIM AS A SELTZER BOTTLE!!!
THIS SHOWER OUGHT TO COOL YOU FOR GOOD!
6.

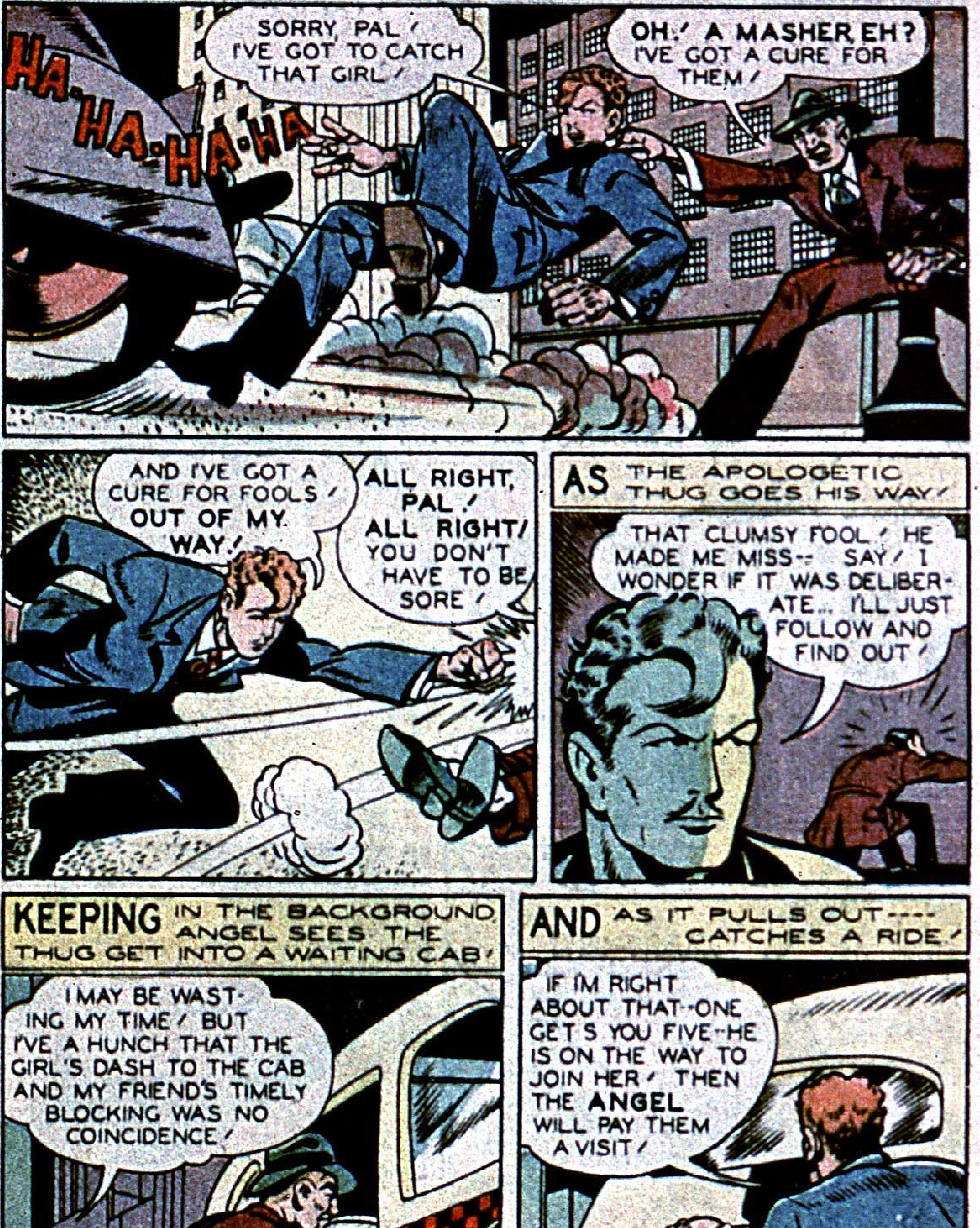

THE PATRIOT DROPS THE HOSE AND GOES IN SLUGGING FOR THE KILL, WHEN---
WATCH OUT THE BUILDING IS COLLAPSING!
YAAAAA
TOO LATE! DESTROYED IN THE INFERNO HE PLANNED FOR OTHERS!
WOULDN'T YOUR FOLLOWERS LOVE TO SEE YOU NOW--YOU IN THIS BEAUTIFUL FIRE, ALL BY YOURSELF, WHY THEY WOULD BE JEALOUS!
BACK AT THE OFFICE!
--AND THAT WAS IT CHIEF---HADES RAN THIS PHONEY CULT AND ALL THESE PIN HEADS DID HIS DIRTY WORK!
THAT INSURANCE MAN WHO WAS IN BACK OF IT ALL COMMITED SUICIDE IN HIS CELL--HIS COMPANY KNEW NOTHING OF HIS ACTIONS!
JEFF--WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU AT THE ZOO?
WELL, MARY--THERE I WAS TRAPPED BY THE FLAMES--NO ESCAPE POSSIBLE--AND BEFORE I KNEW IT I BURNED TO DEATH!
HEH-HEH!
THE END.

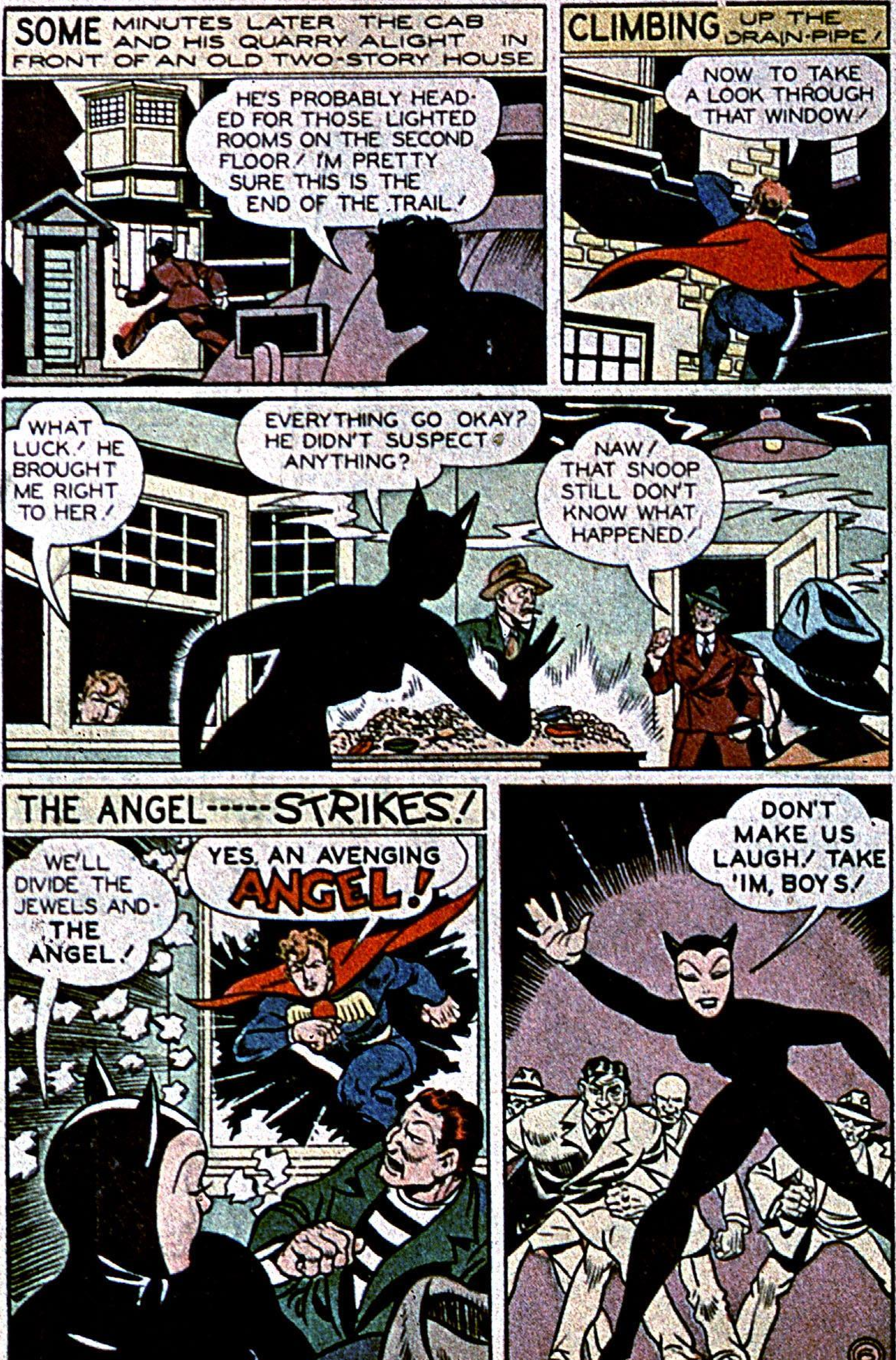

The ANGEL
A NEW FEROCIOUS CREATURE MAKES HER DEBUT IN CRIME! ENDOWED WITH AMAZING STRENGTH, INCREDIBLE AGILITY, AND RUTHLESS CUNNING, SHE PITS HER WITS AGAINST THE *ANGEL* IN...
The Horror of the CATWOMAN!
POP

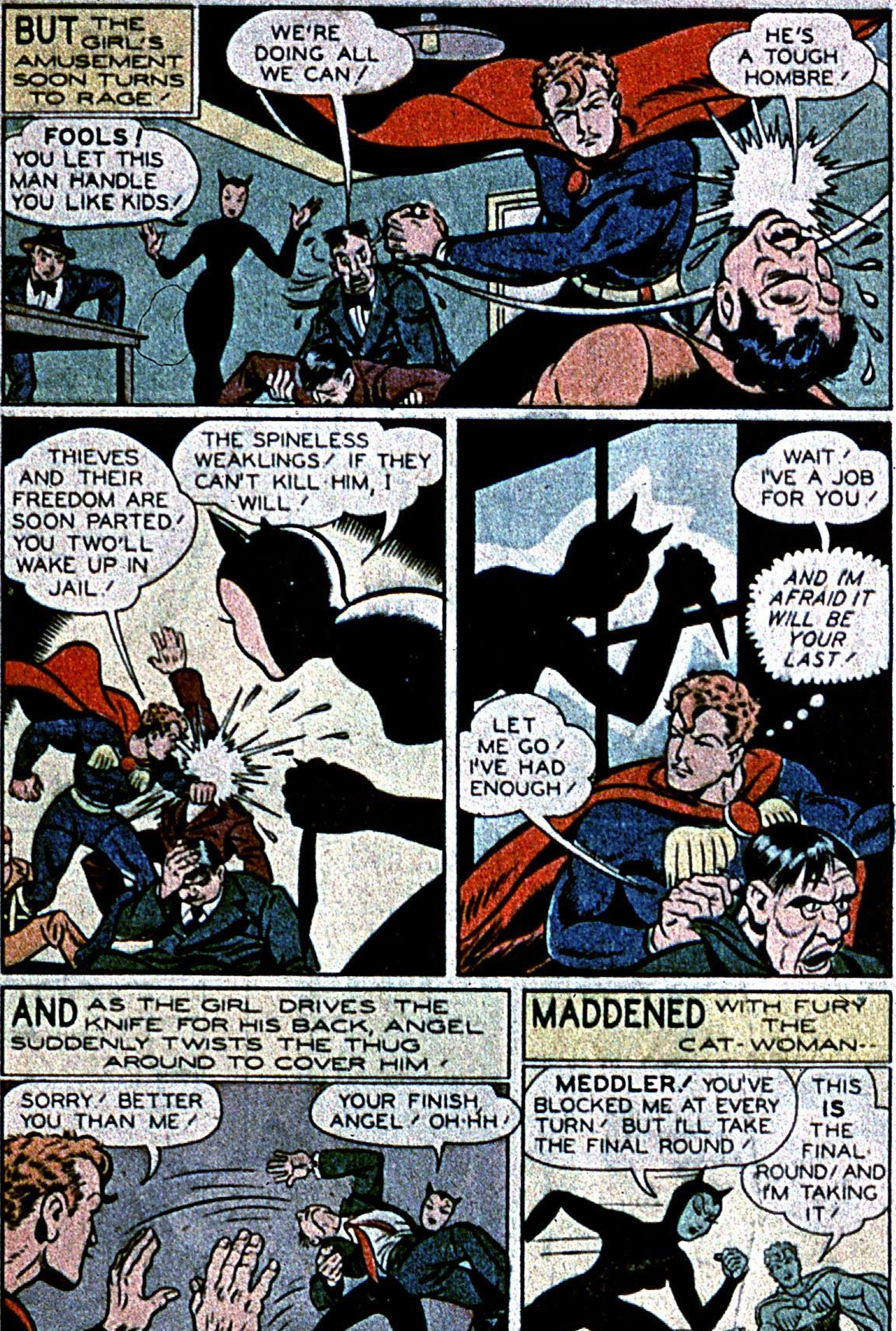

LATE ONE EVENING AS THE ANGEL TAKES A STROLL THROUGH A DARKENED SECTION OF JEWELERS' ROW!
BANG BANG BANG
SHOTS! AND THEY CAME FROM THAT LIGHTED WINDOW!
RACING THROUGH THE LOBBY AND INTO THE ELAVATOR, ANGEL TAKES IT TO THE SIXTH FLOOR!
THAT'S THE DOOR! BUT THIS CALLS FOR A LITTLE CAUTION!
SILENTLY OPENING THE DOOR--
A GIRL--
SO WHAT! NOW GRAB AIR BEFORE I BLAST YOU!
DISOBEYING THE COMMAND--
OKAY, PAL! YOU ASKED FOR IT!
YOU MURDEROUS SHE-CAT!
NOW! GIVE ME THE GUN!
OKAY, I KNOW WHEN I'M LICKED!
2

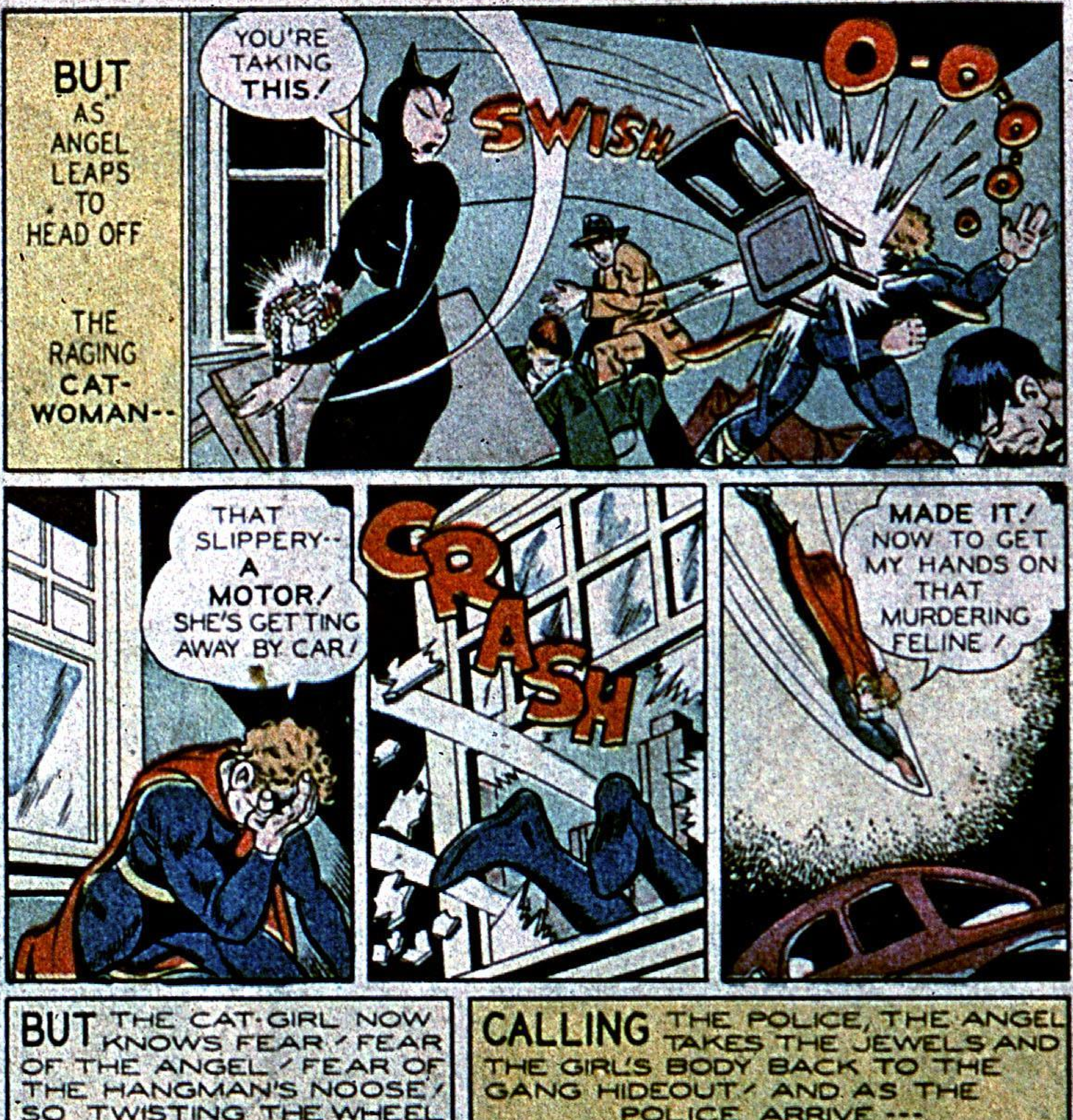

AS ANGEL TAKES THE GUN AND RELEASES HIS HOLD, THE GIRL ROLLS CAT-LIKE AND!
YOUR KIND USUALLY DO! HEY!--
HA! HA! NEXT TIME DON'T TAKE ME FOR A SET-UP!
DON'T FOLLOW ME IF YOU WANT TO STAY HEALTHY!
DON'T WORRY! AFTER THAT TRICK, I'M CONVINCED YOU'RE QUITE A GIRL!
PURSUING THE PANTHER-LIKE MURDERESS!
SHE'S HEADING FOR THE ROOF!
CORNERED, THE GIRL MOVES LIGHTLY TO THE EDGE OF THE ROOF!
NOW WHAT'S SHE UP TO? HEY! SHE'S GOING TO JUMP!
YOU GUESSED IT!
THEN DIVES SMOOTHLY OVER THE EDGE OUT INTO SPACE!
DON'T, YOU FOOL!
SO-LONG, PAL!
③


LEANING OVER THE EDGE OF THE BUILDING!
A FEMALE ACROBAT, EH!!! WELL! I'M AGILE, TOO!
YOU!
YES! DIDN'T THINK I WOULD FOLLOW, DID YOU?
IT DOESN'T MATTER! I'LL RUN YOU WEARY!
CONFIDENT LITTLE CAT, AREN'T YOU!
SLAM!
WE PART HERE, MISTER!
ELEVATOR
MISSED HER! THERE'S THE STAIRS!
REACHING THE GROUND FLOOR ON FLYING FEET!
SHE'S GETTING INTO THAT CAB!
IN HIS HASTE ANGEL FAILS TO SEE THE ONCOMING FIGURE!
SHE'S GETTING AWAY! OOPH!
HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
4

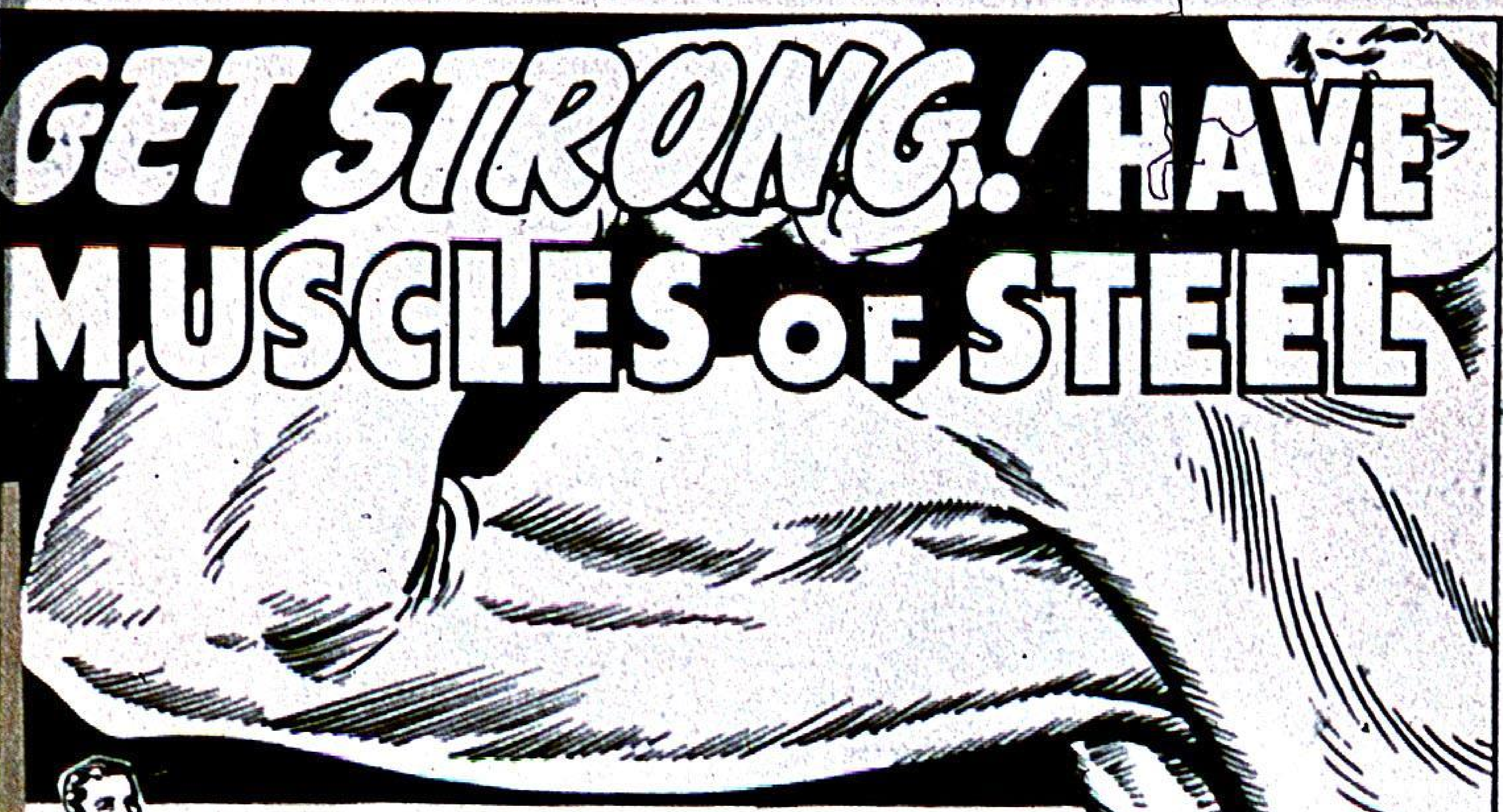

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA
SORRY, PAL! I'VE GOT TO CATCH THAT GIRL!
OH! A MASHER, EH? I'VE GOT A CURE FOR THEM!
AND I'VE GOT A CURE FOR FOOLS! OUT OF MY WAY!
ALL RIGHT, PAL! ALL RIGHT! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SORE!
AS THE APOLOGETIC THUG GOES HIS WAY!
THAT CLUMSY FOOL! HE MADE ME MISS-- SAY! I WONDER IF IT WAS DELIBERATE... I'LL JUST FOLLOW AND FIND OUT!
KEEPING IN THE BACKGROUND ANGEL SEES THE THUG GET INTO A WAITING CAB!
I MAY BE WASTING MY TIME! BUT I'VE A HUNCH THAT THE GIRL'S DASH TO THE CAB AND MY FRIEND'S TIMELY BLOCKING WAS NO COINCIDENCE!
AND AS IT PULLS OUT--- CATCHES A RIDE!
IF I'M RIGHT ABOUT THAT--ONE GET'S YOU FIVE--HE IS ON THE WAY TO JOIN HER! THEN THE ANGEL WILL PAY THEM A VISIT!
23

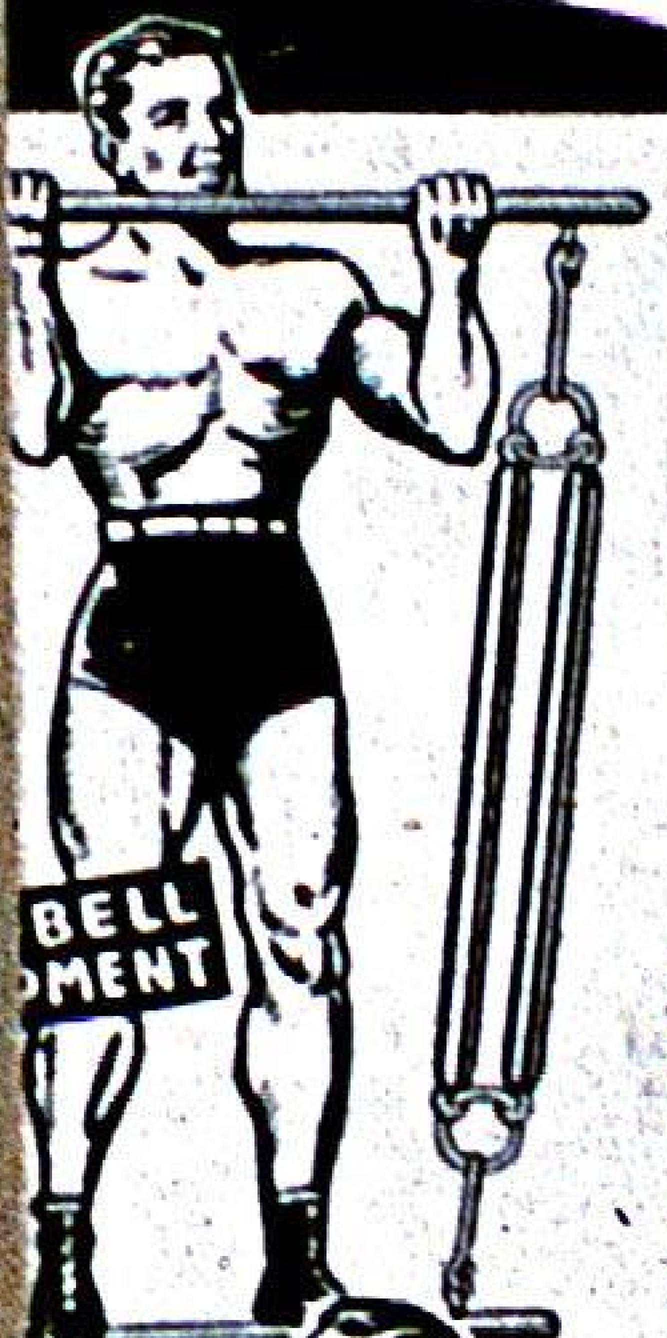

SOME MINUTES LATER THE CAB AND HIS QUARRY ALIGHT IN FRONT OF AN OLD TWO-STORY HOUSE
HE'S PROBABLY HEADED FOR THOSE LIGHTED ROOMS ON THE SECOND FLOOR! I'M PRETTY SURE THIS IS THE END OF THE TRAIL!
CLIMBING UP THE DRAIN-PIPE!
NOW TO TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THAT WINDOW!
WHAT LUCK! HE BROUGHT ME RIGHT TO HER!
EVERYTHING GO OKAY? HE DIDN'T SUSPECT ANYTHING?
NAW! THAT SNOOP STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!
THE ANGEL-----STRIKES!
WE'LL DIVIDE THE JEWELS AND- THE ANGEL!
YES, AN AVENGING ANGEL!
DON'T MAKE US LAUGH! TAKE 'IM, BOYS!
6


BUT THE GIRL'S AMUSEMENT SOON TURNS TO RAGE!
FOOLS! YOU LET THIS MAN HANDLE YOU LIKE KIDS!
WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN!
HE'S A TOUGH HOMBRE!
THIEVES AND THEIR FREEDOM ARE SOON PARTED! YOU TWO'LL WAKE UP IN JAIL!
THE SPINELESS WEAKLINGS! IF THEY CAN'T KILL HIM, I WILL!
WAIT! I'VE A JOB FOR YOU!
AND I'M AFRAID IT WILL BE YOUR LAST!
LET ME GO! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
AND AS THE GIRL DRIVES THE KNIFE FOR HIS BACK, ANGEL SUDDENLY TWISTS THE THUG AROUND TO COVER HIM!
SORRY! BETTER YOU THAN ME!
YOUR FINISH, ANGEL! OH-HH!
MADDENED WITH FURY THE CAT-WOMAN--
MEDDLER! YOU'VE BLOCKED ME AT EVERY TURN! BUT I'LL TAKE THE FINAL ROUND!
THIS IS THE FINAL ROUND! AND I'M TAKING IT!


BUT AS ANGEL LEAPS TO HEAD OFF THE RAGING CAT-WOMAN--
YOU'RE TAKING THIS!
SWISH
O-O-O-O-O-O
THAT SLIPPERY-- A MOTOR! SHE'S GETTING AWAY BY CAR!
CRASH
MADE IT! NOW TO GET MY HANDS ON THAT MURDERING FELINE!
BUT THE CAT-GIRL NOW KNOWS FEAR! FEAR OF THE ANGEL! FEAR OF THE HANGMAN'S NOOSE! SO TWISTING THE WHEEL OF HER SPEEDING CAR!
YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE! AAAA-AAAA
GOT OFF THAT HEARSE JUST IN TIME! I DIDN'T THINK SHE'D TAKE THAT WAY OUT!
CALLING THE POLICE, THE ANGEL TAKES THE JEWELS AND THE GIRL'S BODY BACK TO THE GANG HIDEOUT! AND AS THE POLICE ARRIVE ---
HOLY COW! WHO MADE THIS CLEAN-UP!
THERE'S YOUR ANSWER! THE SHADOW OF THE ANGEL!
THE END!

GET STRONG! HAVE MUSCLES OF STEEL





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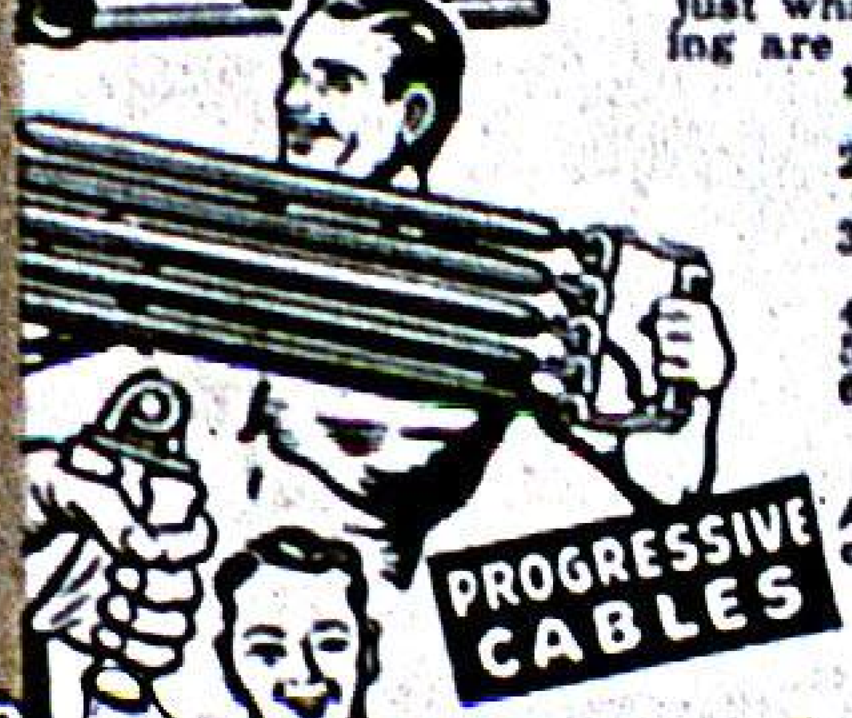

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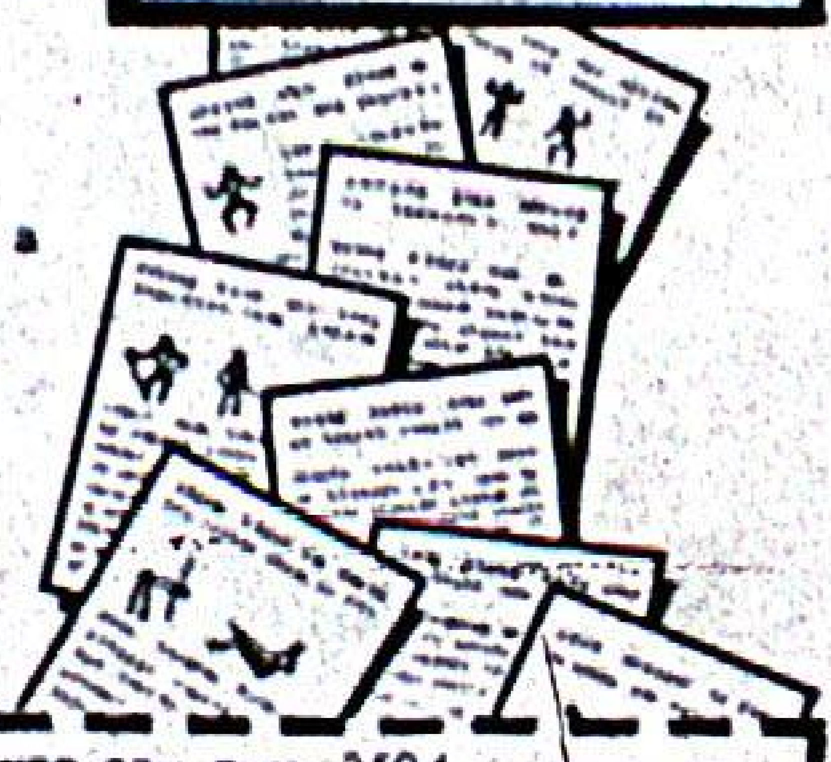

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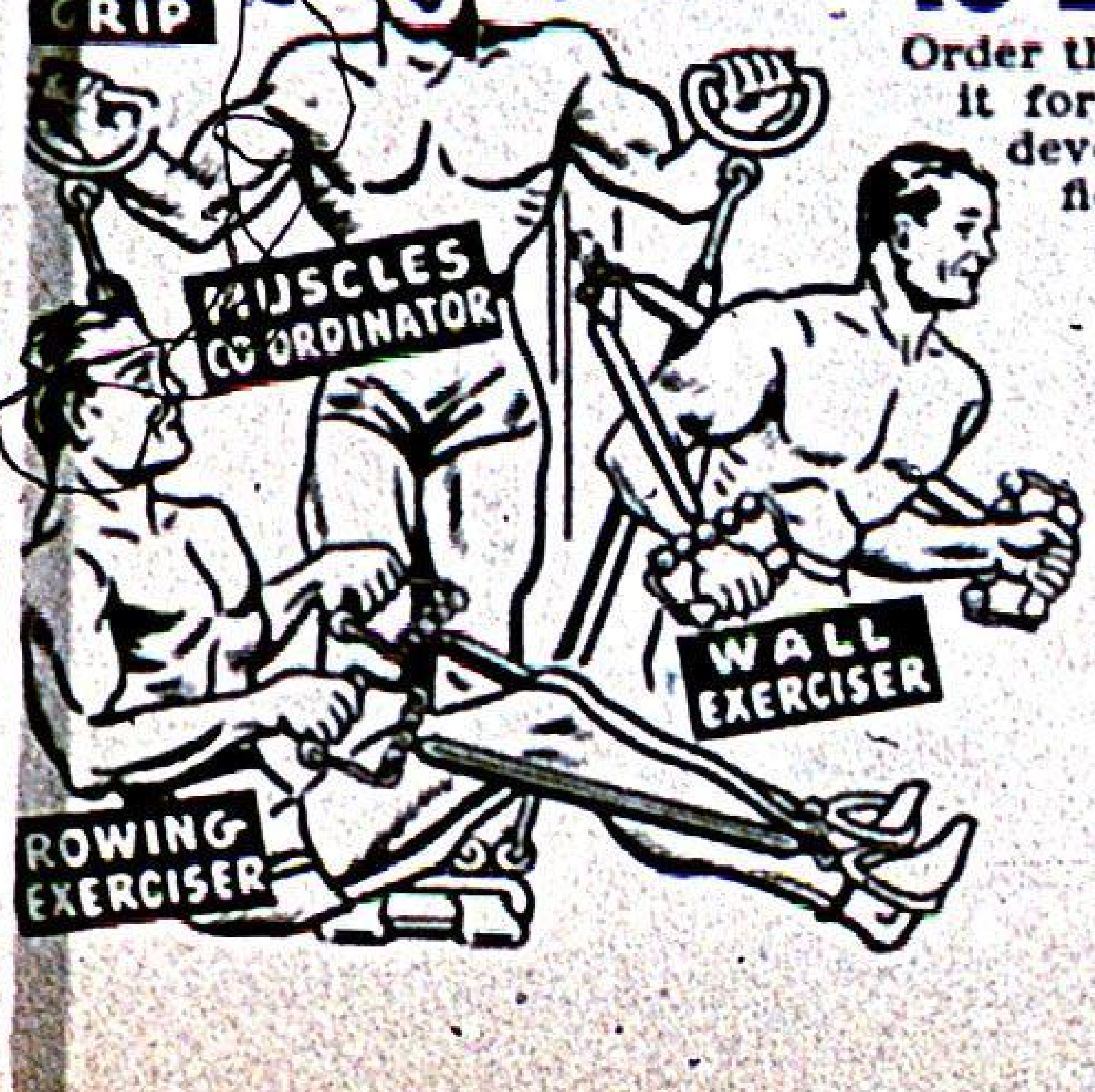

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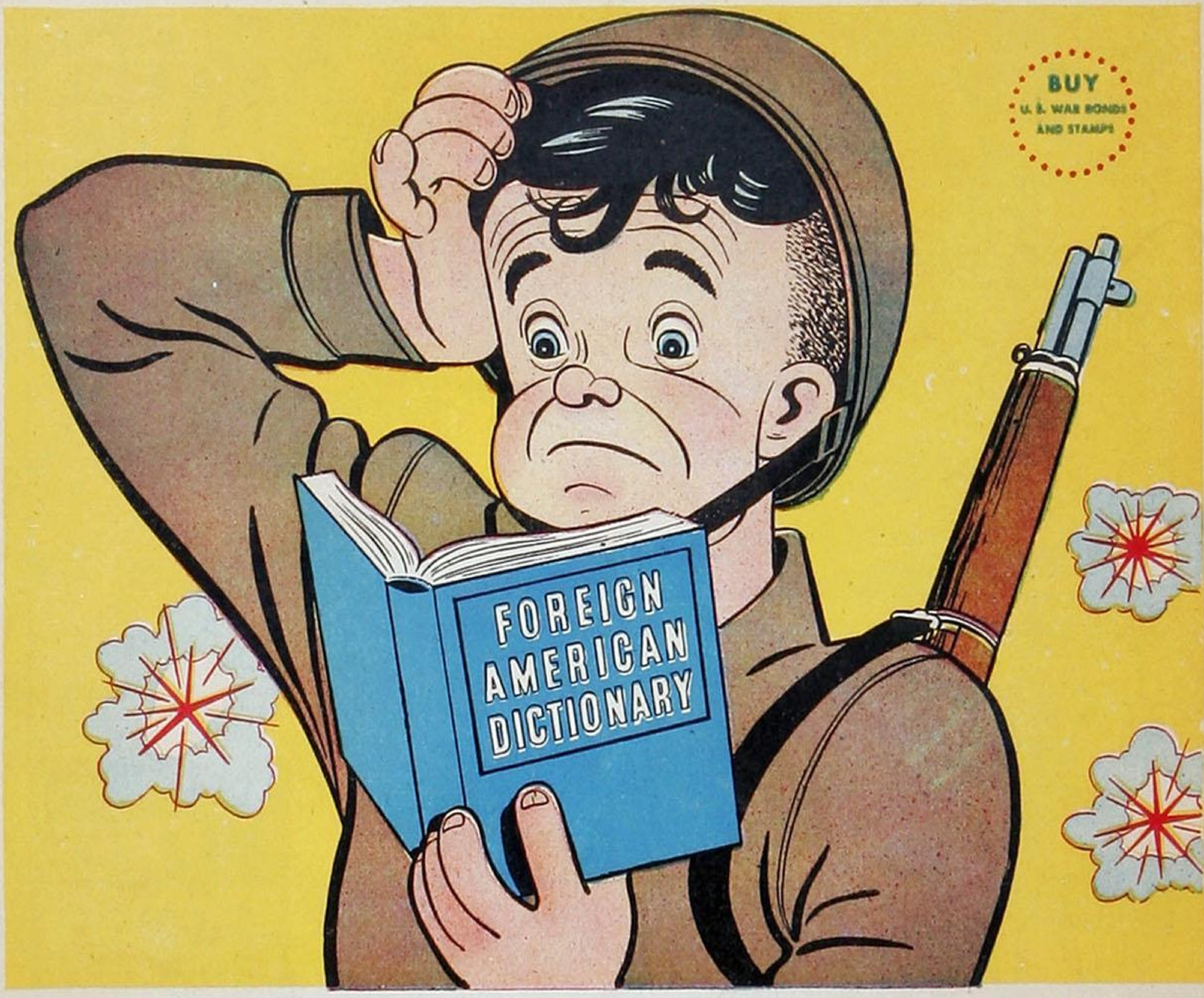
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